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## ORDINARY MEETING.

9 November, 1937.

SYDNEY BRYAN DONKIN, President, in the Chair.

The PRESIDENT reported that, consequent upon the death of Lord Rutherford, an Honorary Member of The Institution, the following resolution had been passed by the Council :—

“ That the Council record the deep regret with which they have learned of the death of the Right Hon. Lord Rutherford, O.M., D.Sc., F.R.S., who was elected an Honorary Member of The Institution in April, 1928, in recognition of his great achievements in the field of physical science, and that an expression of the Council's sincere sympathy be conveyed to his family in their bereavement.”

The Council reported that they had recently transferred to the class of

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The following Paper was submitted for discussion, and, on the motion of the President, the thanks of The Institution were accorded to the Author.

Paper No. 5148.

## "Combustion-Efficiencies of Gas and Oil Engines."†

By WILLIAM ALFRED TOOKEY, M. Inst. C.E.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Introduction . . . . .	166
Relation of mean pressure to mixture-strength . . . . .	168
Comparisons between tests with mixed and unmixed gases . . . . .	177
Compression-ignition engines . . . . .	180
Appendix . . . . .	191

### INTRODUCTION.

FOR more than 25 years the Author has had the opportunity of observing the performances of gas engines in industrial service—mainly throughout South London but also in the West Midlands and the north-western districts of England. In the majority of instances, the power-output of the engine has been computed from indicator-diagrams and the latter have been used in order to diagnose faults and to estimate the effects of "tuning-up" to correct erratic working due to mechanical defects, to incorrect valve-timing, or to deranged ignition settings, as occasioned by mishandling, by uncorrected effects of wear, by unsuitable proportioning of air and gas, and by restrictions either in the induction-passages for gas and air or in exhaust-gas connexions.

It will be realized that unexpected problems had to be solved in this work, not the least of which was the design of an indicator reducing-gear which had to be capable of application to every type of industrial single-cylinder engine whatever the length of stroke. Furthermore, the gear had to combine reasonably accurate reproduction of piston movement with light weight—an essential requirement from a personal point of view. The type of gear ultimately found to combine universality of application with portability, simplicity, and reasonable accuracy is described and illustrated in the Appendix.

A further problem was to decide upon a basis of comparison which would permit the computation of mean pressure, from the plani-

† Correspondence on this Paper can be accepted until the 15th March, 1938.—ACTING SEC. INST. C.E.

metered area of indicator-diagrams, to be correlated with gas-meter readings. With the very many types and sizes of engines met with in all stages of repair and disrepair, the usual statement of cubic feet per indicated h.p.-hour (based on cylinder dimensions and number of impulses per unit time) gave no useful comparison of performance. It was found, however, that when the indicator mean pressure was taken as a fundamental unit representing power-output, and the rate of fuel-consumption, computed from the gas-meter readings, was expressed in terms of B.Th.U. per cubic foot of total cylinder volume (piston-displacement + clearance-volume), the factor obtained by dividing mean pressure by mixture-strength gave a direct indication of thermal efficiency. This factor was first used by the Author in 1909,<sup>1</sup> when he showed the advantage of this method of comparison in a critical analysis of the tests reported by the late Professor F. W. Burstall.<sup>2</sup> The method of comparison was further explained in a Paper read by the Author in January, 1914.<sup>3</sup> During the 23 years intervening, the general utility of the method has been well proved and the performance of every type of internal-combustion engine, when appraised upon this common basis, has brought to light various points of interest, some of which it is the object of this Paper to present and discuss.

The total cylinder-volume is in a sense a measure of the maximum air-capacity at normal temperature and pressure per cylinder per impulse. The air-capacity of an engine cylinder decides the limit of its ultimate power, as the fuel, whatever its nature, merely provides the wherewithal to burn the oxygen contained in the air. The Author has found that engine attendants, having been misled by nomenclature, are prone to decide that a gas engine must necessarily require manipulation of the gas-regulating cock more or less according to the load, not realizing that there is a minimum and a maximum limit of combustibility, and, indeed, a very definite ratio of gas to air which gives maximum combustion-efficiency. It is the air-content that matters most.

In hundreds of gas- and oil-power installations—particularly those erected in pre-war days—those responsible for the lay-out have stultified the good working qualities of the engine by placing the exhaust-silencer close to the cylinder instead of, say, 12 or more feet away. The kinetic energy of the waste gases leaving the cylinder

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<sup>1</sup> "The Influence of Compression Pressure upon Thermal Efficiencies of Gas-Engines." *Engineering*, vol. lxxxviii (1909), p. 522.

<sup>2</sup> Third Report to the Gas-Engine Research Committee. *Proc. Inst. Mech. E.*, 1908 (Part 1), p. 5.

<sup>3</sup> "Commercial Tests of Internal-Combustion Engines," *Ibid.*, 1914 (Part 1), p. 5.



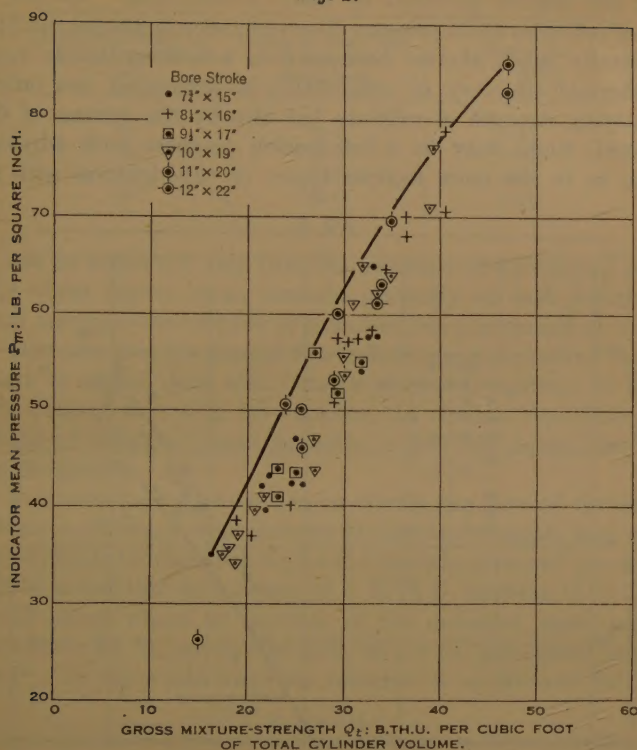
is entirely lost when the exhaust-box is too close; when it is at a greater distance, the spent gases continue to flow at considerable velocity from the cylinder and, with the normal overlap in valve-timing, fresh air is then induced to follow through, scavenging the combustion-chamber and ensuring good combustion-conditions for the next charge. It is evident that old doctrines need new preachers, for it has apparently been forgotten that the James Atkinson scavenging engine of 1892 functioned with a definite length of exhaust-pipe before release to an expansion-chamber. Incidentally, the Author has upon occasion criticized principals of technical colleges who arrange exhaust-gas calorimeters in research laboratories as close to the engine cylinder as is practicable. They may have good reasons from a tutorial point of view, but they fail to realize that in such a position considerable back-pressure is set up, with consequent retention of heated exhaust-products within the combustion-chamber. This seriously affects the efficiency of combustion, and also considerably restricts the mean effective pressure that would otherwise be obtainable when full charges of cool air refill the cylinder.

#### RELATION OF MEAN PRESSURE TO MIXTURE-STRENGTH.

It would be wearisome to report at length the variations of the "work output  $\div$  heat input" (or mean pressure  $\div$  mixture-strength) factor noted in a multiplicity of tests made by the Author under industrial conditions, and to describe how and to what extent improvements have been possible by simple adjustments. Attention may, however, be directed to a few graphs which epitomize many tests.

*Fig. 1* reproduces the observed performances under industrial conditions of a considerable number of single-cylinder horizontal gas engines of various sizes, all throttle-governed and with low-tension magneto-ignition. The cylinder-dimensions of the individual engines are indicated. It will be observed that the plotted points arrange themselves within well-defined limits from a minimum mixture-strength of 17 to 19 B.Th.U. (gross) per cubic foot to a maximum of 40 B.Th.U. per cubic foot with only four points beyond—these indicating merely that the normal industrial loads were usually well within the maximum or rated loads. An analysis of the plotted points along the line representing the better performances shows that a mixture-strength of 20 B.Th.U. per cubic foot of total cylinder volume produces an indicated mean effective pressure of 42.5 lb. per square inch, giving a factor of 2.125 lb. per square inch output

Fig. 1.



INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCES OF THROTTLE-GOVERNED GAS ENGINES  
WITH LOW-TENSION MAGNETO-IGNITION.

per B.Th.U. input; taking intervals of 5 B.Th.U., Table I can be made for the higher efficiencies as marked by the line:—

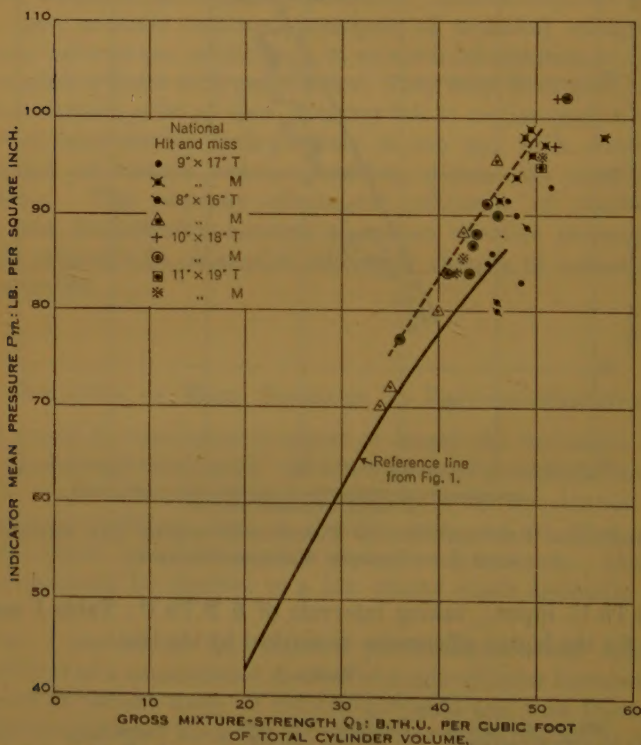
TABLE I.

Mixture-strength $Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot.	Indicator mean pres- sure $P_m$ : lb. per square inch.	Factor $T_m$ ( $=P_m/Q_t$ ).
20	42.5	2.12
25	52.0	2.08
30	61.0	2.03
35	69.5	1.98
40	77.5	1.94

From this it will be observed that with increasing mixture-strength the thermal efficiency of engine performance in terms of indicator mean pressure is decreased.

For gas engines governed by the "hit-and-miss" method, the range of indicator mean pressure observed under industrial conditions is naturally much shorter because it is not intentionally varied. The thermal efficiency of combustion is influenced not only by the varying strength of mixture but also by the system of firing employed, which may be a low-tension magneto with adjustable timing, as in the more modern types, or tube-ignition with non-

Fig. 2.



INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCES OF HIT-AND-MISS GOVERNED GAS ENGINES  
WITH HOT-TUBE (T) AND MAGNETO (M) IGNITION.

adjustable timing, as fitted to engines of, say, 30 years ago. Fig. 2 shows the relation between mixture-strength and indicator mean pressure for four sizes of cylinder, all by one manufacturer, and the plotted points discriminate between the various cylinder-sizes and types of ignition. Here again it will be observed that under industrial conditions there is a similar degree of dispersion of plotted points; the results for the higher efficiencies as indicated by the dotted line are given in Table II.



TABLE II.

Mixture-strength $Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot.	Indicator mean pres- sure $P_m$ : lb. per square inch.	Factor $T_m$ ( $=P_m/Q_t$ ).
35	75.5	2.15
40	83.5	2.09
45	91.0	2.02
50	98.0	1.96

It will be noted not only that the incidence of scavenging strokes brings about higher mean pressure generally at each impulse for normal loading—the number of impulses being governed to suit the load—but also that the general thermal efficiency per unit of mixture-strength is higher than with throttle-governed engines. It is also clearly evident that with tube-ignition the combustion-efficiency on the basis of indicator mean pressure is definitely lower than with magneto-ignition.

It is interesting to analyse more closely the rate of decrease of combustion-efficiency with increase of mixture-strength, and, taking the best results tabulated above for the throttle-governed gas engines, it will be noted that an increase of 5 B.Th.U. between  $Q_t = 20$  and  $Q_t = 25$  brings about an increase of the indicator mean pressure from 42.5 to 52 lb. per square inch, or 1.9 lb. per square inch per B.Th.U. ; for the whole range the variation is as given in Table III.

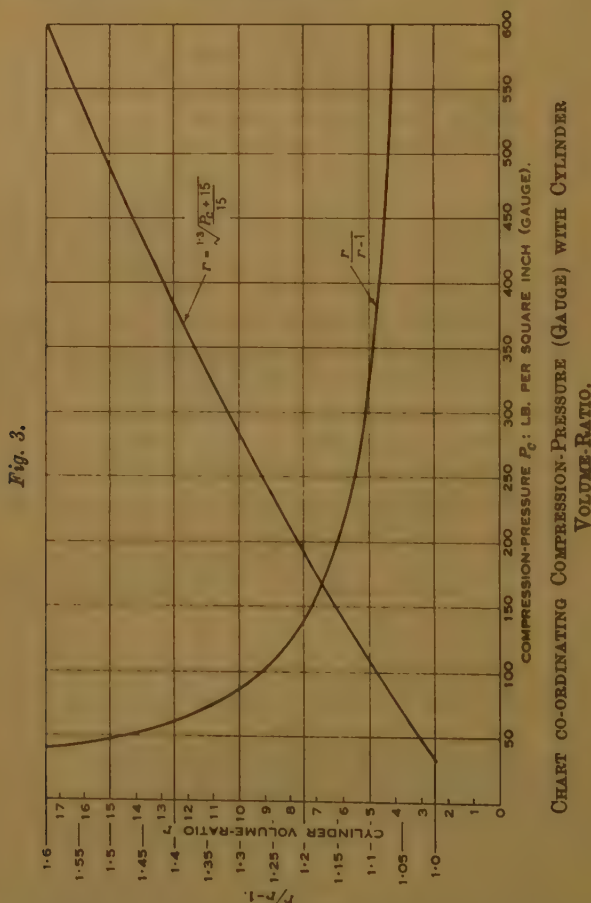
TABLE III.

$Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot.  Col. (1)	Throttle-governed.			Hit-and-miss governed.		
	$P_m$ : lb. per square inch.  Col. (2)	Differ- ence of $P_m$ . Col. (3)	Difference- factor :  Col. (3) ÷ 5	$P_m$ : lb. per square inch.  Col. (4)	Differ- ence of $P_m$ . Col. (5)	Difference- factor :  Col. (5) ÷ 5
20-25	42.5-52.0	9.5	1.9			
25-30	52.0-61.0	9.0	1.8			
30-35	61.0-69.5	8.5	1.7			
35-40	69.5-77.5	8.0	1.6	75.5-83.5	8.0	1.6
40-45	77.5-85.0	7.5	1.5	83.5-91.0	7.5	1.5
45-50				91.0-98.0	7.0	1.4

Comparing the above difference-factors with those previously tabulated, it becomes evident that a higher combustion-efficiency is attained with weaker mixtures—a conclusion which will be discussed later in the Paper.

It will be understood that in the tests of gas engines in industrial service it is impracticable to measure the volume of the combustion-space, but from indicator-diagrams the compression-pressure is

measured and this, with "light spring" cards to determine the volumetric efficiency, is sufficient to enable the designed volume-ratio to be estimated with a close approximation to accuracy. *Fig. 3* reproduces the chart used by the Author relating compression-pressures  $P_c$  (gauge) with cylinder volume-ratios  $r$ , the method of plotting being as indicated on the curves.



The relation between the indicated thermal efficiency  $E_m$  and the Tookey factor  $T_m$  is

$$E_m \times \frac{r}{r-1} \times 5.4 = T_m,$$

and Table IV, pp. 174-175, has been calculated to correlate  $T_m$  and

$E_m$  for various values of  $r$  and for various values of  $n - 1$  in the air-standard efficiency formula  $E_m = 1 - \left(\frac{1}{r}\right)^{n-1}$ .

In the Tables of test results given below,

$Q_t$  denotes the mixture-strength in B.Th.U. (gross) per cubic foot of total cylinder-volume (piston-displacement + clearance-volume);

$P_m$  „ indicator mean pressure;

$P_n$  „ brake mean effective pressure;

$T_m$  „  $P_m \div Q_t$ ;

$T_n$  „  $P_n \div Q_t$ .

There is a temptation, when in possession of a number of test records of various types of gas engines, to reproduce a number of tabulated comparisons. The gas engine, however, is not now in the forefront of internal-combustion-engine development as it was 25 to 30 years ago. It will therefore suffice to record a few results only to represent the performances of multi-cylinder engines with various kinds of power-gases.

A four-cylinder two-crank vertical tandem gas engine with lower cylinders 17 inches and upper cylinders 18 inches bore, 18 inches stroke,  $r = 6.5$ , running at 300 revolutions per minute with producer-gas when tested by the Author at the makers' works, gave results summarized in Table V.

TABLE V.

$Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot.	$P_m$ : lb. per square inch.	$P_n$ : lb. per square inch.	$T_m$ ( $= P_m / Q_t$ ).	$T_n$ ( $= P_n / Q_t$ ).
33.2	69.5	51.6	2.09	1.63
31.25	65.4	46.0	2.09	1.455
24.5	51.3	35.1	2.09	1.43
20.35	42.5	22.45	2.09	1.103
19.8	41.4	11.75	2.09	0.594
16.1	33.7	0	2.09	—

Equal value of  $T_m$  throughout was obtained in this case by suitably adjusting the timing of the high-tension ignition-device.

A two-cylinder four-cycle double-acting horizontal tandem gas engine with cylinders 33.46 inches bore, 43.3 inches stroke,  $r = 6.3$ , running at 106 revolutions per minute with blast-furnace gas gave results as shown in Table VI (p. 176).



TABLE IV.—INDICATED THERMAL EFFICIENCY  $E_m$  AND TOOKEY

Volume-ratio $r$		4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$n-1$								
0.13	$E_m$	0.165	0.188	0.207	0.224	0.236	0.248	0.258
	$T_m$	1.187	1.27	1.34	1.41	1.455	1.505	1.543
0.14	$E_m$	0.176	0.201	0.222	0.240	0.252	0.265	0.275
	$T_m$	1.266	1.356	1.44	1.51	1.555	1.61	1.635
0.15	$E_m$	0.188	0.214	0.236	0.254	0.268	0.28	0.292
	$T_m$	1.354	1.445	1.53	1.60	1.655	1.70	1.735
0.16	$E_m$	0.198	0.226	0.25	0.267	0.282	0.297	0.308
	$T_m$	1.425	1.525	1.62	1.682	1.74	1.805	1.83
0.17	$E_m$	0.21	0.239	0.262	0.282	0.298	0.312	0.324
	$T_m$	1.51	1.61	1.70	1.775	1.84	1.895	1.925
0.18	$E_m$	0.221	0.251	0.275	0.295	0.312	0.327	0.339
	$T_m$	1.66	1.695	1.782	1.86	1.925	1.985	2.03
0.19	$E_m$	0.232	0.263	0.288	0.308	0.326	0.341	0.354
	$T_m$	1.67	1.775	1.865	1.94	2.01	2.07	2.125
0.20	$E_m$	0.242	0.275	0.301	0.322	0.34	0.355	0.369
	$T_m$	1.81	1.855	1.95	2.03	2.1	2.15	2.21
0.21	$E_m$	0.252	0.286	0.314	0.335	0.364	0.37	0.383
	$T_m$	1.812	1.94	2.035	2.11	2.245	2.25	2.295
0.22	$E_m$	0.263	0.298	0.325	0.348	0.367	0.383	0.397
	$T_m$	1.875	2.01	2.105	2.19	2.265	2.325	2.38
0.23	$E_m$	0.272	0.309	0.337	0.36	0.38	0.397	0.411
	$T_m$	1.956	2.087	2.19	2.27	2.345	2.41	2.463
0.24	$E_m$	0.283	0.32	0.349	0.373	0.392	0.411	0.424
	$T_m$	2.03	2.16	2.265	2.35	2.42	2.49	2.54
0.25	$E_m$	0.293	0.331	0.36	0.385	0.405	0.423	0.437
	$T_m$	2.1	2.24	2.335	2.43	2.5	2.57	2.62
0.26	$E_m$	0.303	0.342	0.374	0.397	0.42	0.435	0.45
	$T_m$	2.17	2.31	2.425	2.52	2.59	2.64	2.695
0.27	$E_m$	0.312	0.352	0.382	0.408	0.43	0.448	0.463
	$T_m$	2.245	2.38	2.475	2.57	2.65	2.73	2.77
0.28	$E_m$	0.322	0.363	0.395	0.420	0.442	0.460	0.475
	$T_m$	2.30	2.45	2.56	2.65	2.73	2.795	2.82
0.30	$E_m$	0.34	0.38	0.415	0.44	0.46	0.48	0.50
	$T_m$	2.44	2.57	2.69	2.77	2.84	2.92	2.97

FACTOR  $T_m$  FOR VARIOUS VALUES OF  $r$  AND  $n-1$ .

11	12	13	14	15	16	18	20
0.268 1.59	0.275 1.62	0.284 1.66	0.293 1.705	0.297 1.715	0.302 1.74	0.312 1.785	0.322 1.83
0.285 1.69	0.294 1.73	0.302 1.765	0.308 1.79	0.315 1.805	0.322 1.85	0.333 1.905	0.342 1.945
0.303 1.80	0.311 1.83	0.319 1.865	0.327 1.90	0.334 1.915	0.340 1.956	0.351 2.01	0.362 2.06
0.319 1.895	0.328 1.93	0.336 1.965	0.345 2.0	0.351 2.01	0.358 2.06	0.370 2.12	0.380 2.16
0.334 1.985	0.345 2.03	0.354 2.07	0.361 2.10	0.369 2.115	0.376 2.16	0.388 2.22	0.397 2.26
0.35 2.075	0.36 2.12	0.37 2.165	0.378 2.2	0.385 2.225	0.393 2.26	0.405 2.315	0.416 2.365
0.366 2.175	0.376 2.213	0.385 2.25	0.394 2.29	0.402 2.33	0.410 2.36	0.422 2.41	0.434 2.46
0.38 2.26	0.392 2.31	0.40 2.34	0.41 2.38	0.418 2.415	0.425 2.45	0.439 2.51	0.45 2.56
0.396 2.35	0.407 2.4	0.416 2.43	0.426 2.48	0.433 2.51	0.442 2.54	0.454 2.595	0.467 2.655
0.41 2.43	0.42 2.47	0.43 2.52	0.44 2.56	0.45 2.6	0.458 2.64	0.47 2.685	0.482 2.74
0.423 2.51	0.435 2.56	0.446 2.61	0.455 2.65	0.464 2.685	0.471 2.71	0.485 2.77	0.498 2.83
0.437 2.59	0.449 2.65	0.459 2.685	0.470 2.73	0.478 2.77	0.485 2.79	0.501 2.86	0.572 2.91
0.45 2.67	0.462 2.72	0.473 2.77	0.483 2.81	0.492 2.84	0.50 2.88	0.514 2.94	0.528 3.0
0.463 2.75	0.475 2.8	0.487 2.85	0.496 2.88	0.505 2.92	0.513 2.96	0.528 3.02	0.54 3.07
0.476 2.815	0.488 2.87	0.499 2.92	0.51 2.96	0.519 3.0	0.526 3.03	0.541 3.1	0.555 3.15
0.4885 2.9	0.50 2.945	0.512 3.0	0.522 3.04	0.531 3.07	0.54 3.11	0.554 3.165	0.567 3.225
0.573 3.05	0.525 3.09	0.536 3.135	0.547 3.2	0.556 3.21	0.564 3.25	0.579 3.31	0.59 3.35

TABLE VI.

$Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot.	$P_m$ : lb. per square inch.	$P_n$ : lb. per square inch.	$T_m$ ( $=P_m/Q_t$ ).	$T_n$ ( $=P_n/Q_t$ ).
37.8	75.3	62.6	1.99	1.665
37.4	73.1	60.4	1.955	1.615
37.8	71.4	58.6	1.89	1.55
36.1	68.7	54.3	1.904	1.504
33.1	60.0	45.6	1.813	1.377
24.1	42.5	29.3	1.762	1.215
18.6	31.0	14.7	1.665	0.79

A four-cylinder vertical four-crank gas engine with cylinders 12 inches bore, 11 inches stroke,  $r = 5.0$ , running at 428 revolutions per minute with coal gas (town supply) gave results as shown in Table VII.

TABLE VII.

$Q_t$ (gross) : B.Th.U. per cubic foot.	$P_m$ : lb. per square inch.	$P_n$ : lb. per square inch.	$T_m$ ( $=P_m/Q_t$ ).	$T_n$ ( $=P_n/Q_t$ ).
40.5	85.0	63.4	2.10	1.564
36.3	76.6	56.1	2.11	1.545
30.0	62.4	41.6	2.08	1.386
24.0	46.6	29.0	1.933	1.208
20.15	38.0	15.0	1.885	0.747

It will be seen from the above that, as the practicable minimum mixture-strength is approached, the thermal efficiency on the basis of indicated h.p. deteriorates rapidly with normal governing methods and without advancement of ignition to suit the weaker mixtures. On the other hand, with what might be called automobile methods (where the governor works on a throttle to reduce the charge but with a carburettor in which, with lowering of induction-pressure consequent upon throttling, the gas inlet aperture is caused to open slightly and thus to increase the ratio of gas to air), the minimum practicable mixture-strength is lower, as the following comparison (Table VIII) shows. That Table gives the results of tests on a four-cylinder engine of  $4\frac{1}{8}$  inches bore and 6 inches stroke, which gave 24 brake h.p. output when running at 1,000 revolutions per minute. It was direct-coupled to a 15-kilowatt direct-current dynamo, the output of which was absorbed by water resistances. The brake h.p. and the brake mean effective pressure ( $P_n$ ) were computed from the dynamo-makers' efficiency figures for converting kilowatts to brake h.p.



From the graph (*Fig. 4*, p. 178) it will be observed that at low loads with normal control misfiring has occurred because with weak mixtures the separate cylinders are not equally supplied, but that when both

TABLE VIII.

Brake HP.	$Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot.	$P_n$ : lb. per square inch.	$T_n$ ( $=P_n/Q_t$ ).	$P_m$ : lb. per square inch.	$T_m$ ( $=P_m/Q_t$ ).
<i>With normal governing and control of mixture</i>					
21.5	41.8	53.1	1.27	77	1.84
24.1	44.5	59.2	1.33	83	1.86
25.85	41.8	63.8	1.525	88	2.10
25.85	43.0	63.8	1.48	88	2.05
22.4	39.8	55.4	1.39	80	2.01
22.4	40.4	55.4	1.37	80	1.98
17.3	37.4	42.7	1.14	67	1.79
16.75	37.4	41.4	1.105	66	1.765
11.87	34.7	29.3	0.844	53	1.53
11.87	33.6	29.3	0.872	53	1.58
6.7	29.8	16.55	0.556	40	1.34
<i>With special control of mixture</i>					
0	19.1	—	—	24	1.26
4.9	24.0	11.6	0.484	48	1.31
12.2	30.65	29.75	0.970	55	1.79
23.5	43.8	57.6	1.315	82	1.87

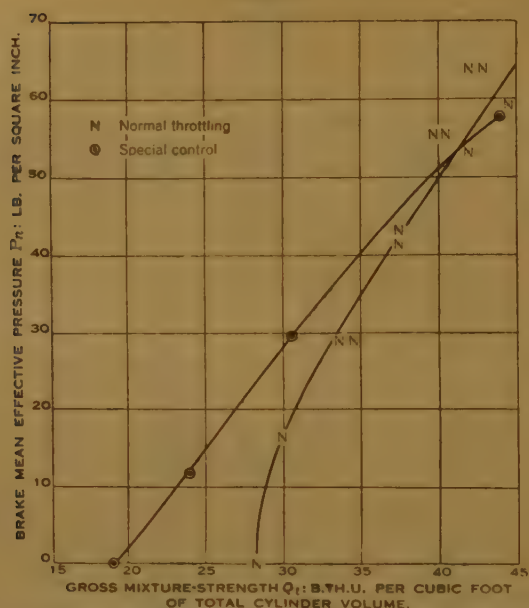
gas and air are automatically regulated by the governing mechanism, the mixtures have evidently been regularly fired, as combustion-efficiency at low loads has been better maintained.

#### COMPARISONS BETWEEN TESTS WITH MIXED AND UNMIXED GASES.

It is always of interest to compare industrial performances with the results of laboratory tests with mixed and unmixed gases. With this object in view, the Author has converted into terms of  $P_m$  and  $Q_t$  (Table IX, p. 178) the results of tests with carbon monoxide reported by Dr. Aubrey F. Burstall.<sup>1</sup> The engine was a single-cylinder variable-compression engine, and the test taken for comparison is that made at 1,000 revolutions per minute with a compression-ratio of 5. The  $P_m$  values were computed by noting the power required to motor the cylinder at speed, immediately after the test run, and adding the frictional mean pressure to the brake mean effective pressure. A similar series of trials with town gas was reported by Dr. Aubrey F.

<sup>1</sup> "Experiments on the Combustion of Carbon-Monoxide—Air Mixtures in a High-Speed Engine," Proc. Inst. Auto. Eng., vol. 21 (1926-27), p. 628.

Fig. 4.



IMPROVEMENT IN INDUSTRIAL RESULTS OBTAINED BY APPLYING  
 AUTOMOBILE METHODS TO MIXTURE-PROPORTIONING.

TABLE IX.—TESTS WITH CARBON MONOXIDE AND AIR MIXTURE.

$P_m$ : lb. per square inch.	$Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot.	Ignition advance : crank degrees.
85.8	41.2	91
92.0	44.0	76
92.3	43.4	63
94.6	48.5	71
95.6	49.0	57
96.1	49.8	57
98.6	50.0	66
111.0	61.0	45
116.0	64.0	39
116.5	65.0	32
120.5	69.0	30
115.0	73.5	41

Burstall<sup>1</sup> at the same speed and same compression-ratio, and the results have been similarly converted (Table X.). For town gas both gross and net calorific values are given.

<sup>1</sup> "Experiments on the Power and Efficiency of the High-Speed Gas Engine," *Ibid.*, vol. 19 (1924-25), p. 620.

TABLE X.—TESTS WITH COAL GAS AND AIR MIXTURE.

$P_m$ : lb. per square inch.	$Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot.		Ignition advance : crank degrees.
	Gross.	Net.	
68.2	31.55	28.7	74
72.5	33.50	30.5	60
78.8	36.95	33.6	56
84.6	38.0	34.6	53
90.8	43.4	39.5	45
97.3	46.5	42.3	36
101.7	50.25	45.7	36
101.8	51.8	47.1	31
105.7	54.55	49.6	31
109.7	56.8	51.6	29
113.2	60.5	55.0	25
115.2	61.6	56.0	25
118.0	66.0	60.0	32
116.7	67.6	61.5	34
116.0	73.7	67.0	33
114.7	78.3	71.2	34

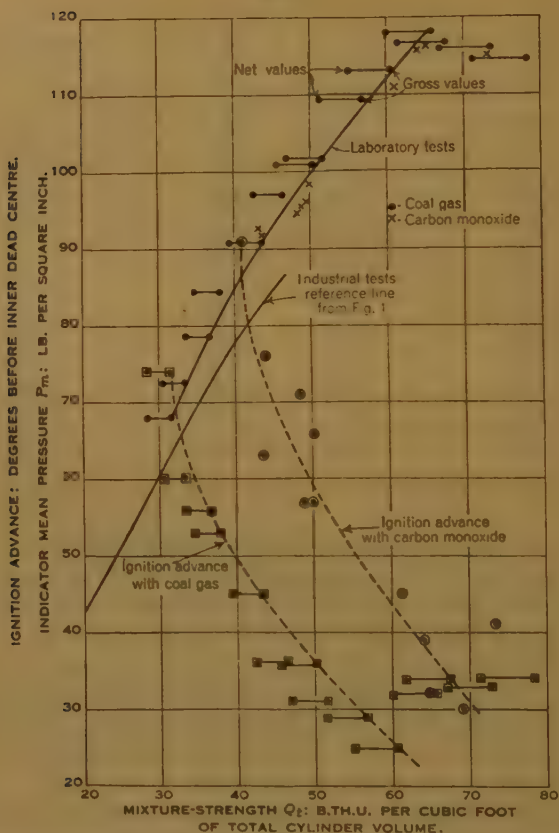
The graphs in *Fig. 5* (p. 180) show the relation between the Tables more clearly, and, in the case of town gas, the differences between gross and net values are shown by horizontal lines. Ignition-timing of gaseous mixtures is of great importance ; the curves formed by the plotted points for the angular degrees of advance for the two mixtures enable the difference in timing for practically equivalent mixture-strengths to be realized. The erratic variations of  $P_m$  in relation to ignition-timing shown in *Fig. 5* at the richer mixture-strengths denote that the latter have reached a critical stage.

It will be observed that for all practical purposes the gross calorific value of the mixed (coal) gas and the calorific value of the carbon monoxide give equivalent duties in terms of indicator mean pressure. Indeed, the difference is so very slight that the discrepancy from exact equivalence would suggest that the multipliers used in the calculation of calorific values may not have been quite correct. The difference in ignition-advance, however, is striking, a mixture-strength  $Q_t$  of, say, 41.5 of carbon monoxide and air requiring 91 angular degrees advance, as compared with only 48 angular degrees required for the coal-gas and air mixture containing hydrogen and hydrogen compounds.

In gas-engine practice no advance in combustion-efficiency has been made since Professors Bertram Hopkinson and F. W. Burstall reported the results of their independently-conducted researches in 1908 at Cambridge and at Birmingham respectively. *Fig. 6* (p. 181) has been prepared to demonstrate this fact. It will be evident that Dr.



Fig. 5.



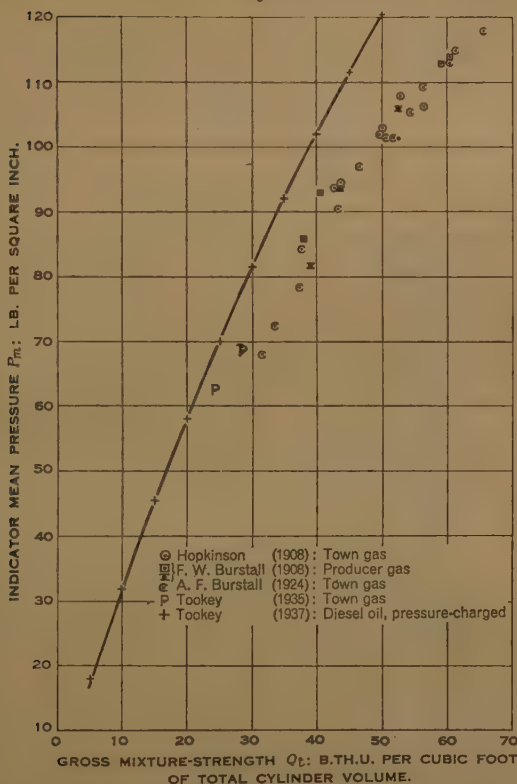
EQUIVALENCE OF COAL GAS AND CARBON MONOXIDE WITH APPROPRIATE IGNITION-TIMING.

Aubrey Burstall's experiments in 1924 confirm the earlier results recorded by his father, and that later industrial trials made by the Author in 1935 are also in accord. In all these cases the compression volume-ratio is of the order of 5 or 5.5 to 1. It is interesting to realize that, whilst all the plotted points other than Dr. Aubrey Burstall's refer to medium-speed stationary engines, his figures referring to a single-cylinder engine at 1,000 revolutions per minute agree remarkably well with the others, particularly at the richer mixture-strengths.

#### COMPRESSION-IGNITION ENGINES

It is well known that with higher values of  $r$  the efficiency of combustion in internal-combustion engines is increased, and that

Fig. 6.



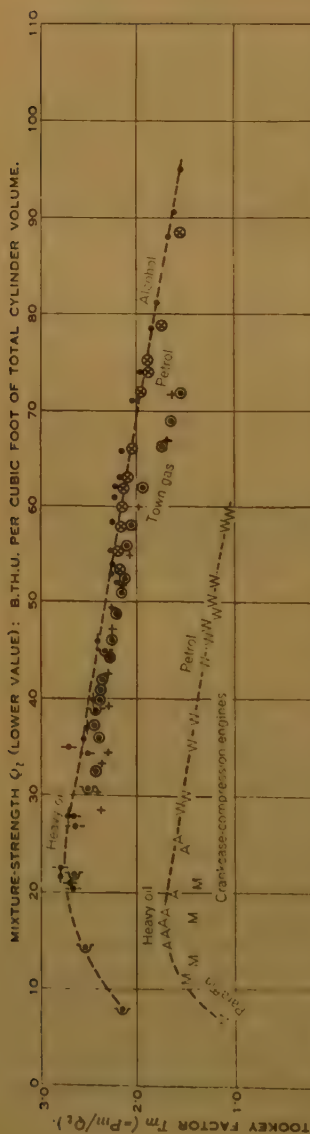
CORRELATION OF COMBUSTION-EFFICIENCIES OF GAS ENGINE AND COMPRESSION-IGNITION ENGINE.





heavy petroleum distillates when injected as in the diesel or compression-ignition type of construction enable full advantage to be taken with industrial success. The correlation of the efficiencies obtained with gas and with heavy liquid fuel is shown by the long curve in Fig. 6, which reproduces test results obtained by the Author with a modern 8-cylinder vis-a-vis horizontal oil engine with pressure-charging. The range of efficient combustion is greatly extended, particularly at the less rich end of the scale, whilst with the richer mixtures it will be observed that while the gas-engine performance gradually deteriorates, the compression-ignition engine maintains its efficiency in a conspicuous manner.

A further chart (Fig. 7, p. 182) is reproduced from a Paper read by the Author<sup>1</sup> in 1926. It correlates the gas-engine performances with

<sup>1</sup> "Industrial Tests of Internal-Combustion Engines." Diesel Engine Users' Association, Publication S. 70. 9 April, 1926.

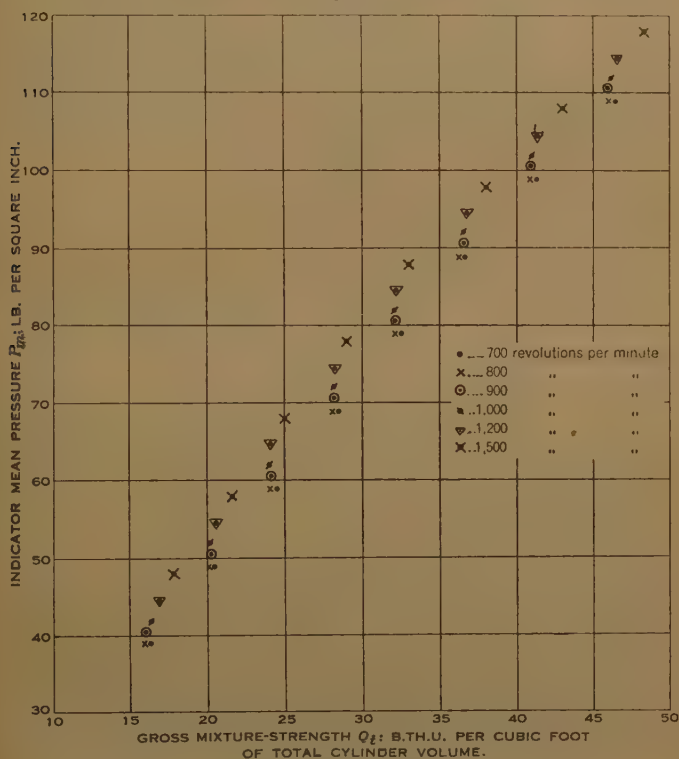
Fig. 7.



Fuel	T <sub>type</sub>	Brake H.P.	N <sup>o</sup> of cylinders	Cycle	Revolutions per minute	Authority	Reference	Piston-displacement, cubic feet	Compression volume-ratio
Heavy Oils	<div>  Nobel diesel   Buckston </div>	1600 250	4 3	2-stroke 4 "	65 & 85 190 200	Roseborg "Chaloner	"Engine" 3,2,22 Makers, 12,2,25	11.62 2.05	14 9
Gas	<div>  Variable-compression   research engine </div>		1 1	4 " 4 "	1000 1400 1500	Bursiall, A.F. "Ricardo "	Proc. I. Auto E. Vol. XIX (1924) p. 114 Vol. XVIII (1923) " p. 190		5 5
Petrol									
Alcohol									
Crankcase - compression type									
Paraffin	M. Miertz & Weiss	15	1	2 "	290	Weinburch	Cornell University (1904)	0.55	5
Heavy Oil	Allen	25	1	2 "	375	Ailcott	Proc. I. Mech. E. (1925)	0.45	5.8
Heavy Oil	W. Gray		1	2 "	1200	Watson	"Auto E." (1910)		3.9

those of various liquid-fuel engines, and enables the relative limits of combustion-efficiency of gas engines, petrol engines and heavy-oil engines to be appreciated. The petrol-engine performances have been plotted from the Empire Motor Fuels Report.<sup>1</sup> The vertical scale

Fig. 8.



*Tookey Factor Values.*

Revs. per min.	2.40	2.425	2.42	2.43	2.43	2.41	2.37
700-800	2.40	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.475	2.42
900	2.60	2.57	2.56	2.565	2.53	2.50	2.445
1000	2.66	2.625	2.62	2.62	2.59	2.55	2.49
1200	2.73	2.70	2.70	2.66	2.63	2.55	2.53
1500							

THE INFLUENCE OF SPEED UPON THE PERFORMANCE OF COMPRESSION-IGNITION ENGINES.

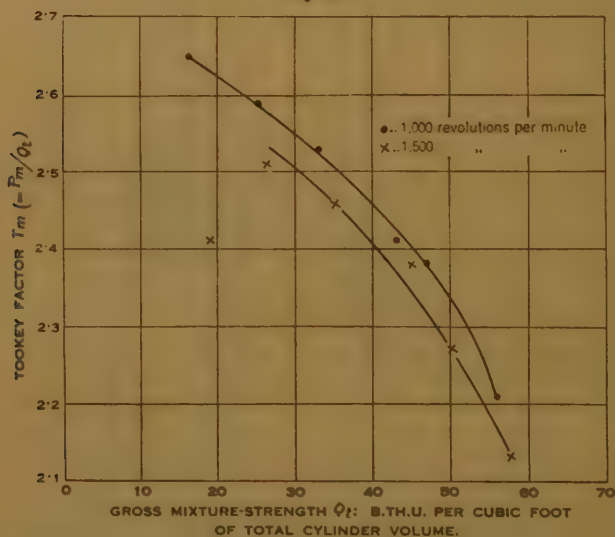
is the Tookey factor (indicator mean pressure  $\div$  mixture-strength), and it will be obvious that high performance on the basis of indicator mean pressure cannot be combined with the highest possible combustion-efficiencies.

<sup>1</sup> Proc. Inst. Auto. Eng., vol. 18, Part I (1923-4).



During recent years a considerable amount of development-work has been undertaken with high-speed compression-ignition engines, and it is interesting to determine to what extent combustion-efficiency is affected by increasing rotational speeds. *Fig. 8* (p. 183) has been prepared from a series of tests made with a Paxman-Ricardo four-cylinder compression-ignition engine and shows the relation between the indicator mean pressure  $P_m$  (computed from the brake mean effective pressure  $P_n$ , and the ascertained frictional resistances at the various speeds) and the mixture-strength  $Q_t$ . From *Fig. 8* it will be observed that speeds of 700 and 800 revolutions per minute

Fig. 9.



INFLUENCE OF SPEED UPON COMBUSTION-EFFICIENCY WITH  
INJECTION-TIMING UNALTERED.

give combustion-efficiencies of practical equivalence, and a similar merging is to be detected at speeds of 1,200 and 1,500 revolutions per minute when  $P_m$  is above 100 and  $Q_t$  above 40. The variations in the value of  $T_m$  are tabulated for each speed at the base of the chart, and it will be apparent that good tuning has in this instance equalized the higher efficiencies at the higher speeds.

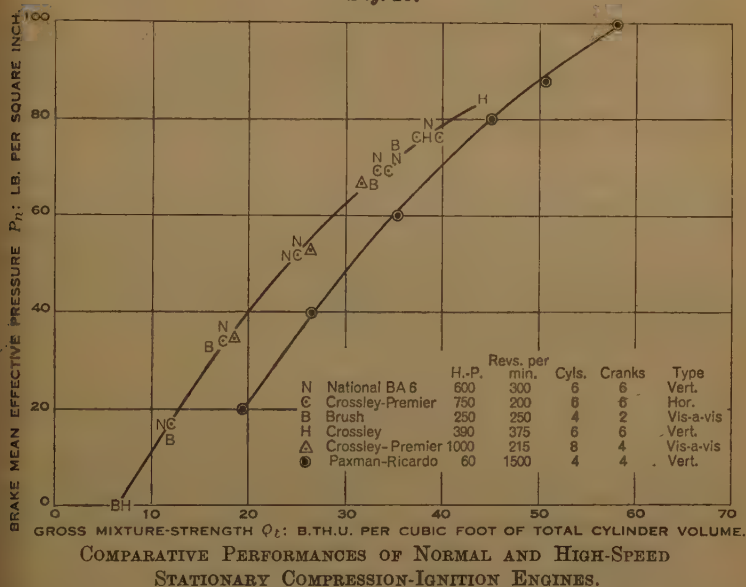
The difference in combustion-efficiency brought about by liquid-fuel injection-timing favouring a speed of 1,000 revolutions per minute and not so well suiting 1,500 revolutions per minute is shown in *Fig. 9*, which reproduces the test-results of another engine of the same type (Paxman-Ricardo) tested by the Author. The lag of

ignition consequent upon cooler cylinder-conditions at light load—starting from cold—is particularly to be noted.

*Fig. 10* has been plotted to show the difference in performance on the basis of mixture-strength between the high-speed type of compression-ignition engine previously referred to in *Fig. 9* and the ordinary heavy normal-speed types suitable for industrial service. In *Fig. 10*, however, the vertical scale is  $P_n$  (brake mean effective pressure) instead of  $P_m$  (indicator mean pressure).

It will be seen that, whilst five very dissimilar heavy-oil engines give practically identical results, the high-speed engine, in consequence

*Fig. 10.*



of its lower mechanical efficiency due to greater losses in fluid and other resistances, falls short in comparison; its range of practical mean pressures, however, is more extensive, due no doubt to the improved pumping efficiency, or, in other words, the increase in volumetric efficiency due to the ramming effect of the kinetic energy imparted to the entering charge of air.

Evaluating the mean curves for both the normal industrial engines and the high-speed type, Table XI (p. 186) shows the increase in mean pressure developed for each additional 5 B.Th.U. per cubic foot in mixture-strength. This comparative Table shows that as heat-engines both types are capable of thermal efficiencies of the same order.

TABLE XI.

Industrial type.					High-speed type.				
$Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot. Col. (1)	$P_n$ : lb. per square inch. Col. (2)	Differences of		Differ- ence- factor: Col. (4) ÷ Col. (3)	$Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot. Col. (5)	$P_n$ : lb. per square inch. Col. (6)	Differences of		Differ- ence- factor: Col. (8) ÷ Col. (7).
		$Q_t$ . Col. (3)	$P_n$ . Col. (4)				$Q_t$ . Col. (7)	$P_n$ . Col. (8)	
10	12	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—
15	26	5	14	2.8	15	—	—	—	—
20	39	5	13	2.6	20	23	—	—	—
25	51	5	12	2.4	25	36	5	13	2.6
30	62	5	11	2.2	30	48	5	12	2.4
35	72	5	10	2.0	35	60	5	12	2.4
40	82	5	10	2.0	40	70	5	10	2.0
					45	80	5	10	2.0
					50	88	5	8	1.6
					55	95	5	7	1.4

*Fig. 11* shows the comparative performances of an atmospherically-charged engine and of a similar engine by the same constructors, but pressure-charged by a blower driven by the engine's own power and therefore comparable as to  $P_n$  (brake mean effective pressure). Evaluating the curve in a similar manner to that adopted in connexion with *Fig. 10*, Table XII has been prepared.

TABLE XII.

$Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot. Col. (1)	$P_n$ : lb. per square inch. Col. (2)	Differences of		Differ- ence- factor: Col. (4) ÷ Col. (3)
		$Q_t$ . Col. (3)	$P_n$ . Col. (4)	
5	nil	—	—	—
10	14.0	5	14	2.8
15	27.5	5	13.5	2.7
20	40	5	12.5	2.5
25	52	5	12	2.4
30	63.5	5	11.5	2.3
35	74	5	10.5	2.1
40	84	5	10	2.0
45	93.5	5	9.5	1.9
50	102.5	5	9	1.8

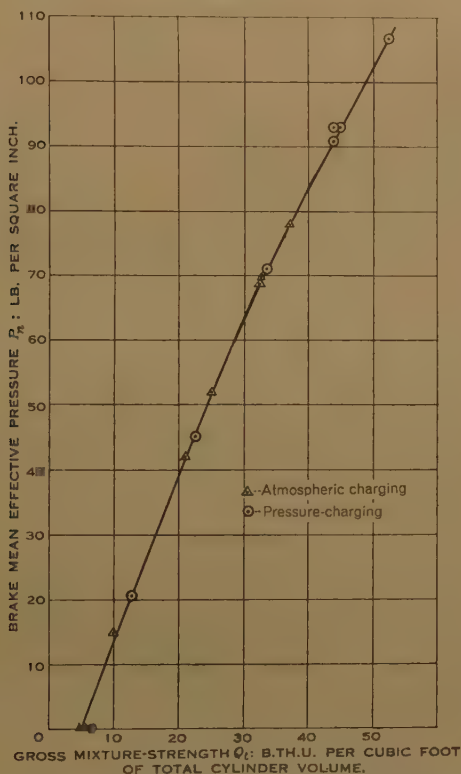
This again shows that equivalence in the rate of decrease of thermal efficiency follows the steps of 5 B.Th.U. increase in the mixture-strength  $Q_t$ .

*Fig. 12* (p. 188) has been prepared from the results of a test conducted at Greenock, in the presence of the Author as a member of the



Marine Oil-Engine Trials Committee of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. It refers to the six-cylinder Scott marine engine, 2,750 brake h.p. at 138 revolutions per minute, for M.S. *Polyphemus*, working pressure-charged on the Büchi system, as reported in the sixth report of that committee.<sup>1</sup> The performances then noted were

Fig. 11.



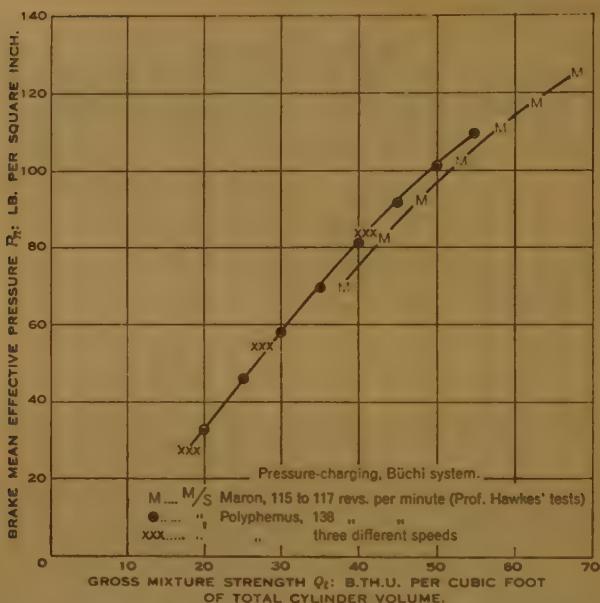
COMPARISON OF PERFORMANCES OF SIX-CYLINDER COMPRESSION-IGNITION ENGINE WITH ATMOSPHERIC AND PRESSURE CHARGING.

in close agreement with those of a similar engine built by the North-Eastern Marine Co. for M.S. *Maron* when tested and reported upon by Professor C. J. Hawkes<sup>2</sup>; as a matter of interest his results are also shown on Fig. 12. Evaluation of the curve enables the change in thermal efficiency due to change in mixture-strength to be demonstrated as in Table XIII.

<sup>1</sup> Proc. Inst. Mech. E., vol. 121 (1931), p. 183.

<sup>2</sup> "The Oil Engines of the Motorship *Maron*." *The Shipbuilder*, March, 1930.

Fig. 12.



PERFORMANCES OF PRESSURE-CHARGED COMPRESSION-IGNITION MARINE ENGINES.

TABLE XIII.

Polyphemus.					Maron.				
$Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot. Col. (1)	$P_m$ : lb. per square inch. Col. (2)	Differences of		Differ- ence- factor: Col. (4) ÷ Col. (3)	$Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot. Col. (5)	$P_m$ : lb. per square inch. Col. (6)	Differences of		Differ- ence- factor: Col. (8) ÷ Col. (7)
		$Q_t$ . Col. (3)	$P_m$ . Col. (4)				$Q_t$ . Col. (7)	$P_m$ . Col. (8)	
20	33	5	—	—					
25	46	5	13	2.6					
30	58	5	12	2.4					
35	70	5	12	2.4	38	70	—	—	—
40	81.5	5	11.5	2.3	43	82	5	12	2.4
45	92	5	10.5	2.1	48	93	5	11	2.2
50	101.5	5	9.5	1.9	53	102.5	5	9.5	1.9
55	110	5	8.5	1.7	58	111	5	8.5	1.7
					63	118.5	5	7.5	1.5
					68	125	5	6.5	1.3

From Fig. 11 and Table XII, which may be taken as representing normal performances of well-constructed and properly-tuned compression-ignition engines, it is possible to appraise the depreciat-

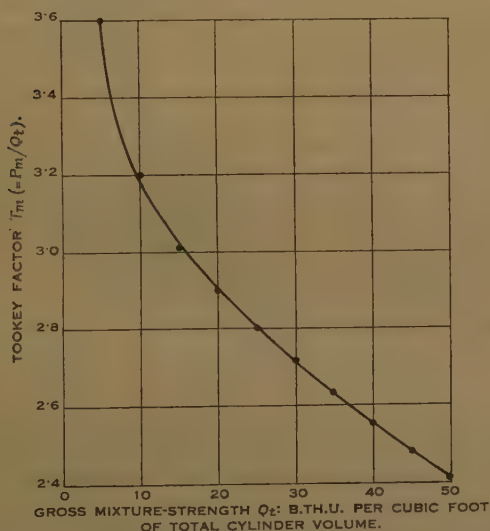
ing value of  $n - 1$  in the air-standard efficiency-formula over the whole range of practicable mixture-strength. This has been calculated in Table XIV.

TABLE XIV.—EVALUATION OF  $n-1$  FOR STEPS OF 5 B.Th.U. IN MIXTURE-STRENGTH.

$Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot.	Difference-factor (from Table XII).	$n-1$ .
5-10	2.8	0.26
10-15	2.7	0.25
15-20	2.5	0.225
20-25	2.4	0.21
25-30	2.3	0.20
30-35	2.1	0.18
35-40	2.0	0.17
40-45	1.9	0.16
45-50	1.8	0.15

In the same engine to which *Fig. 11* refers, the frictional resistances—fluid and mechanical—were determined by computation as equiva-

*Fig. 13.*



RATIOS OF INDICATOR MEAN PRESSURE AND MIXTURE-STRENGTH CORRESPONDING TO *Fig. 11*.

lent to 18 lb. per square inch. Adding this figure to the values of  $P_n$  noted and plotted on *Fig. 11*, the indicator mean pressure  $P_m$  is obtained, and *Fig. 13* has been prepared showing  $T_m$  in terms



of  $Q_t$ . From the corresponding readings along the mean curve for steps of 5 B.Th.U. in mixture-strength, Table XV shows the corresponding values of  $E_m$  (indicated thermal efficiency on the gross calorific value) and of  $n - 1$ .

TABLE XV.

$Q_t$ : B.Th.U. per cubic foot.	$P_n$ : lb. per square inch.	$P_m$ : lb. per square inch.	$T_m$ : ( $=P_m/Q_t$ ).	Indicated thermal efficiency.	$n - 1$ .
0	—	—	—	0.63	0.40
5	0	18	3.6	0.612	0.381
10	14	32	3.2	0.544	0.316
15	27.5	45.5	3.01	0.512	0.289
20	40	58	2.9	0.493	0.273
25	52	70	2.8	0.476	0.26
30	63.5	81.5	2.72	0.462	0.247
35	74	92	2.63	0.447	0.236
40	84	102	2.55	0.433	0.227
45	93.5	111.5	2.48	0.422	0.218
50	102.5	120.5	2.41	0.41	0.21

In the air-standard efficiency-formula the ratio of specific heats  $n = 1.40$ . Messrs. H. T. Tizard and D. R. Pye in the Empire Motor Fuels Committee report<sup>1</sup> gave  $n - 1 = 0.258$  for correct mixtures and 0.296 for 20-per-cent.-weak mixtures as corresponding to the maximum observed efficiencies with carburettor-type engines.

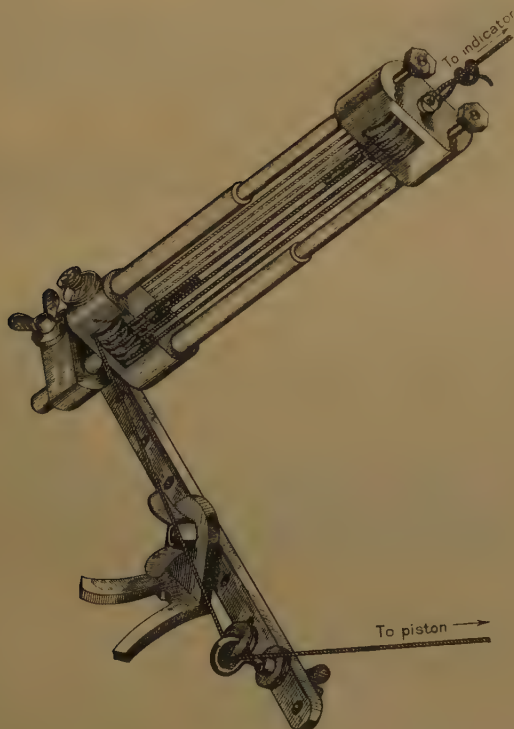
It will be seen that at no load with the very weak mixtures that are practicable in compression-ignition engines, the air-standard efficiency-value of  $n - 1$  is approached within 95 per cent., but that for normal rated loads with  $Q_t = 35$ , the actual efficiency is only 71 per cent. of the air-cycle standard. The latter figure is similar to that which the late Sir Dugald Clerk, M. Inst. C.E., reported as a result of his well-known researches in connexion with the working fluid of internal-combustion engines, and it is also in accordance with the "Note on the Practical Application of the Air Standard Efficiency," embodied in the 1927 Report of the Heat Engine Trials Committee of the Institution of Civil Engineers, compiled from figures supplied by the Author. Probably, however, the point of most interest is the close approach to the air-cycle standard efficiency under no-load conditions which the peculiar attributes of the compression-ignition engine have rendered attainable.

The Paper is accompanied by seventeen sheets of drawings, from some of which the Figures in the text have been prepared, and by the following Appendix.

<sup>1</sup> Proc. Inst. Auto. Eng., vol. 18, Part I (1923-4).

## APPENDIX.

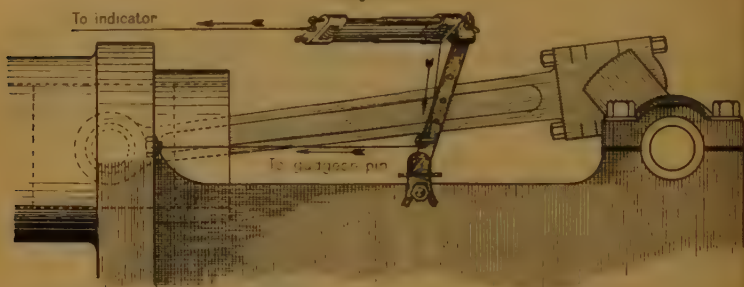
The indicator reducing-gear used by the Author for single-cylinder horizontal gas and oil engines in industrial service consists, as will be seen from *Fig. 14*, of a fixed element and a reciprocating crosshead, both housing five pulleys

*Fig. 14.*

grooved to receive indicating cord, and therefore giving ratios of reduction up to 10 : 1. The reciprocating crosshead is of aluminium, the pulleys are of steel on pins of ample diameter, and the guides on each side are brass tubes arranged in trombone fashion, each furnished with an internal spring around an inner steel rod. Screwed and riveted nuts at the extremities of the rods form safety stops in case of cord-breakage; this, however, with a little preliminary care to ensure that the cord leads directly to the pulley-groove without side friction, is a very infrequent experience. Two methods of application are indicated in *Figs. 15* and *16*, and it will be seen that, with one or two aluminium clamps, "Meccano"-like bars, and a few set-screws and thumb-nuts, the whole equipment can be set up securely and readily to suit all conditions. Even if

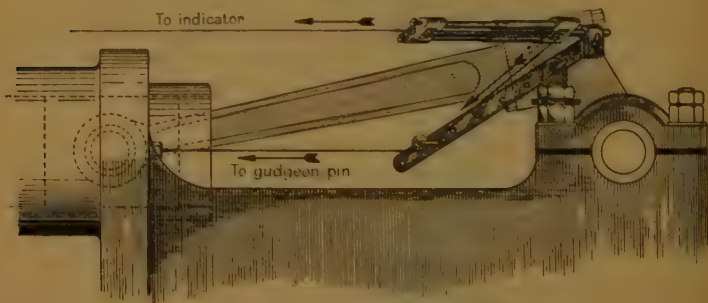
the indicator-plug is offset vertically or angularly from the cylinder-axis, or is placed horizontally at either side or even on the back cover, either a direct lead

Fig. 15.



from the reciprocating crosshead or the use of an intermediate swivelling pulley clamped to the water-outlet connexions can usually be arranged with little trouble.

Fig. 16.



The internal springs in the trombone-tubes relieve the indicator-drum spring of excessive stresses, and throughout many years the Author can recall only one or two replacements being necessary. Cord-stretch also gives no trouble, a fresh piece of cord, known commercially as "whip cord," soon becoming stretched to its maximum limit and afterwards needing no further adjustment. The method of fastening the cord to the fixed crosshead of the reducing mechanism is shown in Fig. 15; at the other end of the system of pulleys, the cord is made into a noose so that it can be slipped over the head of the piston-pin set-screw.

### Discussion.

The AUTHOR, in introducing his Paper, remarked that the plotted points in *Fig. 1* (p. 169) referred to actual tests made under the usual conditions which obtained in the user's premises, and included the effect of any differences between the skill of different operators. It would be seen that they lay nearly on one line, and the line drawn through the upper points had been made the reference-line in subsequent Figures. The mixture-strengths recorded ranged from just below 20 to nearly 50 B.Th.U. per cubic foot. The lower limit of mixture-strength was almost the minimum at which regular explosions could be obtained in a gas engine. The range covered showed that the engines, when tested, were not all working at full load, but that some were working under the governing throttle.

*Fig. 2* (p. 170) showed that magneto-ignition engines gave a higher thermal efficiency on the basis adopted than did tube-ignition engines. That was because with tube-ignition the timing was set, whereas with magneto-ignition it was possible to adjust the timing more or less to suit the conditions obtaining. The lowest mixture-strength was about 35, and the highest about 56 B.Th.U. per cubic foot, which showed that an engine governed by "hit-and-miss" always took a stronger mixture than a throttle-governed engine. Comparison of the test-points with the reference-line showed that the performance of engines with "hit-and-miss" governing was consistently better, owing probably to better scavenging on account of the "miss" strokes; the dotted line had been drawn to indicate, by comparison with the reference-line, the difference between a good throttle-governed engine and an equally good "hit-and-miss" engine.

Under industrial conditions it was not convenient to evaluate calorific values as was possible in the laboratory, and the thermal data given in the Paper had been computed from gas-meter readings.



The Author.

The consistence of the results obtained under widely-varying industrial conditions went far to refute the frequently-heard accusation that gas-meters were untrustworthy. The calorific value had also to be taken as being constant; that assumption was safe, as the gas referees made daily tests to ensure that it did not vary from the stated standard by more than a small percentage.

*Fig. 5* (p. 180) indicated that the only important difference between a single-component gas, such as carbon monoxide, and a mixed gas such as coal gas, was the greater ignition-advance required by the former; that was due possibly to the absence of hydrogen, which started the ignition in the coal gas.

*Fig. 6* (p. 181), in addition to showing that no advance had been made in the combustion-efficiency of the gas engine since 1908, gave an interesting comparison between the gas engine and the pressure-charged compression-ignition engine. The latter was not limited to a minimum working mixture-strength of 20 B.Th.U. per cubic foot as for throttle-governed gas-engines, but was capable of running lightly with high efficiency at no load, whilst with pressure-charging it was possible to increase the amount of mixture so as to get an indicator mean pressure of as much as 120 lb. per square inch with a mixture strength of 50 B.Th.U. per cubic foot.

The conclusion of the Paper was the tabulation of the quotient of the indicator mean pressure and the mixture-strength for a compression-ignition engine with mechanical injection; it was shown, probably for the first time, that such an engine under no load operated close to the air-cycle standard efficiency.

The President.

The PRESIDENT congratulated the Author on his Paper, which contained such interesting records of tests and conclusions therefrom that it could be wished that Captain Sankey, Professor Burstall and Sir Dugald Clerk could have been present, as they had been about 30 years ago. It was Captain Sankey who had first called the ratio of the mean pressure to the mixture-strength the "Tookey factor" and it was interesting to see how it had become of definite value to the user for comparing engine-performances.

It was of special interest to The Institution to find that the "Note on the Practical Application of the Air Standard Efficiency" embodied in the 1927 Report of the Heat Engine Trials Committee of The Institution was supported by recent tests conducted by the Author, who found that at normal rated loads and average mixture strengths the actual efficiency was 71 per cent., of the air-cycle efficiency, as compared with Sir Dugald Clerk's figure of 70 per cent. It was also interesting to note that with compression-ignition engine when working on very weak mixtures under no-load conditions 95 per cent. of the air-standard efficiency had been reached.

Sir JOHN THORNYCROFT remarked that the present Paper was particularly welcome, as few Papers dealing with the subject of internal-combustion engines had been discussed at The Institution since the War. The present-day motor vehicle and the aeroplane owed their development to the internal-combustion engine. While small power-plants on land had been diminishing in number with the introduction and extension of the supply of electrical power, marine engineers had been applying the internal-combustion engine to drive boats, and eventually ships. In the early days of the application of oil-engines to marine propulsion, Emile Capitaine, who had been one of the pioneers of the small high-speed oil engine on the Continent, had urged the adoption of gas engines for marine propulsion. A low-speed gas engine of 500 h.p. had been fitted in an experimental boat, and a number of engines of 150 and 200 h.p. in barges and other vessels. For the plant to be effective for sea-going ships, however, it was necessary to be able to use any type of coal that might be obtainable—bituminous coal, Welsh coal or anthracite—and the difficulties of developing a producer suitable for the conditions had been so great that no further progress had been made. It was of some interest to record, however, that an attempt had been made to use the gas engine in that way.

The principal subject of the Paper was the ratio which the Author put forward, but that ratio did not give all the information desired, although a good deal of it. The Author's investigations had led him to certain conclusions, and he had brought forward evidence to corroborate them, but there were other factors to be taken into account in addition to those which the Author utilized in arriving at his ratio. It was known that some fuels permitted a greater proportion of the heat units which they contained to be converted into work than did others, and the degree of turbulence in the combustion-chamber of the engine had a very important effect. There were engineers present who had carried out extensive investigations of high-speed and low-speed diesel engines, and who would have much that was interesting and important to contribute to the discussion.

The Right Hon. Viscount FALMOUTH observed that it would be very useful to engineers to have such a large quantity of statistics and figures relating to the whole range of different classes of gas and oil engines brought together in one Paper.

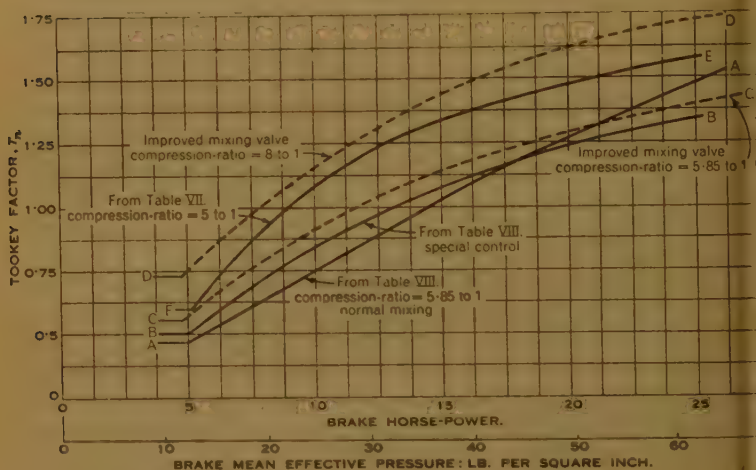
It would be interesting to know why the Author preferred the "Tookey factor" to the thermal efficiency as a basis of comparison between internal-combustion engines; the Author had had very long experience in testing engines, but those who were interested in designing engines nearly always employed the thermal efficiency.

Lord  
Falmouth.

Perhaps the Author would also say something more about his method of specifying "mixture-strength," because that term was often employed to denote the ratio of the fuel in the mixture, whether oil or gas, to the air. The Author, on the other hand, used it to denote the heat-intake per cubic foot of total cylinder volume. It was possible, of course, to vary considerably the amount of air admitted to a cylinder whilst injecting the same amount of fuel. In those circumstances, the mixture-strength would be varied under one definition and not under the other. He hoped that the Author would give his views on those points, because they were interesting and many others arose from them.

The figures given in Tables VII and VIII of the results of tests of

*Fig. 17.*



gas engines were very interesting. Lord Falmouth had had the figures plotted (*Fig. 17*), together with those of another engine with higher compression-ratio, for purposes of comparison. Curve gave the extrapolated figures of Table VIII (p. 177) for a small gas engine running under normal governing arrangements. Curve (from the same Table) was for the same gas engine, modified so as to have what was called in the Paper an automobile type of governing. It would be seen that line B showed a higher efficiency than A at low loads, but crossed line A at about three-quarter load. The maximum power of the engine was about 25 h.p. In further tests not mentioned in the Paper, the governing system had been again modified, and curve C was obtained, which was higher than B, but again crossed A at about three-quarter load. The compression-rat

was then increased experimentally to 8 to 1, the results being as shown in curve D. Lord Falmouth.

It was stated in the Paper that there had been very little improvement in the gas engine, and *Fig. 6* (p. 181) showed that the compression-ignition engine had a considerable advantage. As would be realized, that was due to the fact that it had not been possible to raise the compression of the gas engine to anything like the same extent as that of the compression-ignition engine; his own company, however, had tried to raise the compression of the small engine to which he had referred, and with very successful results. It had been expected that there might be trouble with overheating of the exhaust-valves, but that had not been the case, and the improved efficiency had kept the exhaust-valve temperature down lower than in some of the other engines.

For comparison of the results which a medium-speed large engine would give, curve E had been plotted for the engine mentioned immediately beneath Table VI, p. 176. It would be seen how advantageous the high compression-ratio would be if it could be successfully adopted in gas engines.

An interesting point was brought out in *Fig. 5* (p. 180), which showed the importance of advancing the ignition in gas engines when working with weaker mixtures. That was not very easy to do, and many makers, though realizing that considerable improvement could be so obtained, fought shy of it because it entailed an additional complication, which might not be worth while in view of the fact that many of the engines were operated by unskilled men.

In *Fig. 11*, p. 187, the Author compared the performances of a six-cylinder compression-ignition engine with atmospheric and pressure charging. It would be of interest to know whether the valve-timing had been altered to suit the two different conditions, because generally there was an entirely different set of timing in the pressure-charged engine from that which prevailed in the engine working under ordinary suction.

Mr. A. E. L. CHORLTON was a little disappointed that the Author Mr. Chorlton. had not dealt more fully with practical considerations, limitations, and factors which affected the results with different types of engines. He would, however, confine his remarks to certain other questions, the first of which was the indicator-gear. It was very important to use a good indicator-gear, and even more important that it should be properly put on the engine. The Author had not said whether he had met with cases where it had not been put on properly, but Mr. Chorlton had done so.

The Author had referred to the exhaust-pipe and to its effect on the running of the engine, and to the use of exhaust-gas calorimeters



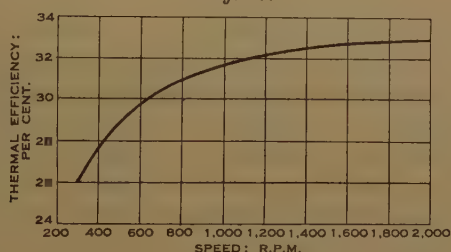
Mr. Chorlton. and other devices which he thought affected the passage of exhaust gas in the pipe. That was a very interesting subject, and more should be done in the way of experiment. The effect of a proper exhaust-system was to be seen in the Petter two-stroke engine, where the motion of the exhaust-gas was used to draw in the air for the next working stroke. Many years before the War, he had tried to obtain a simple relation by which it would be possible to determine the length of exhaust-pipes, but the usual difficulty was that a pipe, to give the correct period, had to be of impracticable length. As the Author mentioned, Atkinson in the early days had used a long exhaust-pipe to obtain a scavenging effect, but the idea had been dropped, probably because of the length of pipe necessary. Mr. Chorlton had found that the insertion of a square box in the pipe made it possible to use a much shorter pipe, as the first pulse passed into the box, and there was a short time-lag before the second pulse reached the box. The use of such an exhaust-system had caused a material reduction in the pumping loss. Exhaust boilers had a serious effect if placed too close to the engine-cylinder, but they were very important, particularly for large engines, and if the Author could give any information regarding their position it would be of great interest, as they were nearly always placed close to the cylinder, whatever their form, so as to get the best heat-return possible. If the boilers were arranged some distance down the pipe heat would be lost owing to the distance, but if it were placed next to the engine there would be a tendency for it to interfere with the pulsation of the exhaust-gases.

In making the very useful practical comparisons between engines given in the Paper, it was a pity that the Author had not indicated the nature of possible improvements arising out of them. Immediately below Table I (p. 169), the Author said: "From this it will be observed that with increasing mixture-strength the thermal efficiency of engine performance in terms of indicator mean pressure decreased." That was true, but in almost every case there was bound to be some explanation. In dealing with engines governed by the "hit-and-miss" method, the Author pointed out that the scavenging stroke, which brought in fresh air, was the explanation of the higher mean pressure and the better results in comparison with throttle-governed engines, and Mr. Chorlton suggested that in ordinary engine-design that should be borne in mind very much more than it was. Immediately below Table III (p. 171), the Author said: "Comparing the above difference-factors with those previously tabulated, it becomes evident that a higher combustion-efficiency was attained with weaker mixtures . . ." That was so, and in the extreme case of an air-engine, in which there was no combustion

the efficiency became 100 per cent. of the air-standard efficiency; Mr. Chorlton, the Author had shown how nearly that figure had been attained with an oil engine with a very weak mixture.

The Author, on p. 179, made the very striking and explicit statement that "In gas-engine practice no advance in combustion-efficiency has been made since Professors Bertram Hopkinson and F. W. Burstall reported the results of their independently-conducted researches in 1908 at Cambridge and at Birmingham respectively." That was nearly 30 years ago, and Mr. Chorlton was very pleased to learn that Lord Falmouth's company had recently modified an engine and had obtained an improved efficiency from it. The difficulty in making a gas engine more efficient was that of using a higher compression-ratio, and he had hoped that the Author would have given some information in that respect. Great Britain was, after all, a coal-producing country, and everything possible should

*Fig. 18.*



therefore be done to use coal, and to use it economically. Lord Falmouth had said that in a particular engine the compression-ratio had been successfully increased from 5 to 1 to 8 to 1. It would have been interesting if Lord Falmouth had said something about the changes which had been made to allow the higher compression to be used, or why in earlier days nothing had been done to raise the compression. Lord Falmouth had mentioned the fear of overheating the exhaust-valve, but when working with a higher compression the heat-loss to the cylinder-walls and exhaust-valve was smaller, not greater. There did not appear to be any reason why the same economy should not be realized with a gas engine as was obtained with a diesel engine.

*Fig. 18* related to the engine to which the Author referred (p. 184) when dealing with the effect of a rise in speed on the thermal efficiency. The improvement was of great interest, because it was of such great commercial value. A fast-running engine developed more power

Mr. Chorlton. than a similar engine running more slowly, and if it were possible to raise the economy at the same time it would be very useful; small engines, and particularly those used in motor transport, had illustrated what could be done in raising the efficiency. In the Paper the statement was made that "... the high-speed engine, in consequence of its lower mechanical efficiency due to greater losses in fluid and other resistances, falls short in comparison [with lower speed engines]; its range of practical mean pressures, however, is more extensive, due no doubt to the improved pumping efficiency or, in other words, the increase in volumetric efficiency due to the ramming effect of the kinetic energy imparted to the entering charge of air." Mr. Chorlton wondered whether the Author was quite correct in making that statement. With engines running at a speed of about 1,000 revolutions per minute, and with a stroke considerably longer than that of the engine to which the Author referred, Mr. Chorlton had obtained consumptions considerably lower, and quite equal to those on the higher curve of *Fig. 10* (p. 185). The difficulty with a compression-ignition engine was that the conditions of injection had to be taken into account; it was not possible simply to weigh the fuel and to suppose that it had been injected effectively, and there might be quite a difference between one engine and another according to whether the injection was efficient or otherwise. In the case of the engine in question, it was not stated whether there was a turbulence-chamber or a simple chamber; the latter gave a higher efficiency than the former, and that might explain the difference shown in *Fig. 10*.

Mr. Robinson. Mr. I. V. ROBINSON remarked that apparently what the Author had done was not so much to explain why the efficiency of engines using a high "heat-density" was reduced as compared with that of engines using lower "heat-densities," but rather to record the reduction, and to attempt to show the rate at which the efficiency decreased. Mr. Robinson was a little surprised that the Author had not devised formulas collating his columns of figures, and that he had therefore made some attempt to do so, because when it was said that, of two factors, one varied with the other at a certain rate it was very unsatisfactory to have to refer to a diagram and to say that it showed, for example, how curve B varied with curve A. If it were possible to have an equation which connected the two factors a comparison between them could be made much more easily. He had therefore attempted to formulate some of the columns of figures given in the Paper, and he would refer first to Table II (p. 171), in which the Author showed in the first column the quantity of heat per cubic foot—a short phrase for which was "heat-density"—and in the next column what was termed  $P_m$ , which was the

indicator mean pressure in lb. per square inch. That gave the Mr. Robinson equation

$$P_m = 2.35Q_t - 0.5 - 0.01Q_t^2$$

the great advantage of that method was that if it were desired to find the rate at which  $P_m$  varied with "heat-density," which was what the Author was really giving in the column headed "difference-factor," all that had to be done was to differentiate that equation. After differentiating, it was found that the rate of variation of  $P_m$  with  $Q_t$  was given by the expression  $2.35 - 0.02Q_t$ . That became zero when  $Q_t$  was equal to 117.5 B.Th.U. per cubic foot, and the maximum value of  $P_m$  which could be obtained, provided that the equation given above correctly represented the variation of  $P_m$  with  $Q_t$ , was 137.5 lb. per square inch.

He had adopted a similar method in connexion with Table VII (p. 176), which gave the equation

$$P_m = 3.32Q_t - 22.0 - 0.017Q_t^2.$$

Adopting the same procedure as before, the rate of variation of  $P_m$  with  $Q_t$  was found to be  $3.32 - 0.034Q_t$ . The maximum value of  $P_m$  in that case was 140.1 lb. per square inch when  $Q_t$  was equal to 77.5 B.Th.U. per cubic foot. In Table VII the Author gave the values of the brake mean effective pressures, and the differences between them and the indicator mean pressures for different heat-densities were 21.6, 20.5, 20.8, 17.6, and 23.0 lb. per square inch. Assuming a mean value of 21 lb. per square inch, the general expression for the brake mean effective pressure was

$$P_n = 3.32Q_t - 43 - 0.017Q_t^2.$$

The corresponding value for  $T_n$  was  $3.32 - \frac{43}{Q_t} - 0.017Q_t$ . If the latter expression were again differentiated, 1.719 would be found as the maximum value for  $T_n$ , and would occur when  $P_n$  was 1.0 and  $Q_t$  was 50.3.

Still dealing with Table VII, and referring back to the figures based on indicated pressure, by dividing the expression for  $P_m$  throughout by  $Q_t$  an expression for  $T_m$  was obtained, and by differentiation the maximum value for  $T_m$  of 2.10 could be found. It occurred for values of 36.0 for  $Q_t$  and 75.47 for  $P_m$ . It would be observed that those figures giving a maximum value of  $T_m$  corresponded almost exactly with the figures in Table VII for a heat-density of 36.3, which showed the maximum value for  $T_m$ .

The full line given in *Fig. 6* (p. 181) could be treated similarly, and gave the equation

$$P_m = 3.15Q_t + 1.56 - 0.0156Q_t^2.$$



Mr. Robinson. Again differentiating and equating the differential to zero, the maximum value for  $P_m$  was found to be 161.56 lb. per square inch with a heat-density of 100 B.Th.U. per cubic foot. If the expression obtained from Fig. 6 were divided through by  $Q_t$ , the expression for the Tookey factor  $T_m$  would be found to be  $3.15 + \frac{1.56}{Q_t} - 0.0156Q_t$ .

If that expression, in turn, were differentiated, the result would show that  $T_m$  was always decreasing with an increase in the value of  $Q_t$ ; that result was entirely contrary to what was found from Table VII.

Table XV (p. 190) could also be treated in the same way, giving,

$$P_m = 3.00Q_t + 3.3 - 0.0131Q_t^2.$$

$P_m$  had a maximum value of 175.06 lb. per square inch with a heat-density of 114.5 B.Th.U. per cubic foot. Dividing the expression through by  $Q_t$  to get the Tookey factor, it was found that, as in Fig. 6,  $T_m$  was always decreasing with increase of  $Q_t$ .

In Table XV the difference between the indicated and the brake mean pressure was generally about 18 lb. per square inch, and deducting that from the expression for  $P_m$  and dividing through  $Q_t$ , the general expression for  $T_n$  was found to be

$$3.0 - \frac{14.7}{Q_t} - 0.0131Q_t.$$

That, by the usual treatment, gave a maximum value for  $T_n$  of 1.563 when  $P_n$  was 53.75 and  $Q_t$  was 25.7.

With such equations it was possible to get quantitative values for the rates of increase, and it should be possible to allocate some specific reason to the fact that, whereas with some test results  $T_m$  was always decreasing, with others it was increasing up to some specific values of  $P_m$ . Mr. Robinson left it to the Author to say whether there was that difference between the behaviours of different engines.

The foregoing line of examination showed that there might be some hope that the output of engines could be increased up to a mean pressure of 175 lb. per square inch, and he wondered whether it would be possible to achieve such mean pressures by the use of special fuels—perhaps of the “dopes” of which so much was heard.

With regard to the form of the equation, all those who had had any experience in equating figures knew that it was possible over a given range to adopt several forms of equation. Thus, as an alternative to the equation given earlier for Table XV, it would be possible within the limits of that Table to express the figures quite accurately by the equation  $P_m = 4.757Q_t^{0.8265}$ . The drawback

the exponential equation was that a maximum point was not obtained; the slope was ever decreasing but never became zero, so that there was no maximum, and in a case such as that which was being considered he thought that it was desirable to have a curve which had a definite maximum point.

It would be of interest to know whether the Author had ever compared the rate at which heat was released in an oil-engine cylinder with, say, the rate at which heat was released in a large boiler. From figures which Mr. Robinson had it seemed to him that the rate of heat-release in an oil engine was at least equal to the rate of heat-release in the large central power-station boilers. It would be of interest if the Author would look into that question and would give some definite information on the point.

Mr. Robinson called attention to the fact that the ratio in Table IV between  $E_m$  and  $T_m$  was constant for any value of the volume-ratio  $r$ , and there would not appear to be any necessity for having reproduced the large number of figures appearing in Table IV (pp. 174 and 175). The ratio of  $E_m$  to  $T_m$  was given by the expression  $\frac{1}{5.4r}$ , and was therefore independent of  $(n - 1)$ . The efficiency

of  $E_m$  did vary with  $(n - 1)$ ; those values might have been shown for any one value of  $r$ , and the variation of  $E_m$  with  $r$  for all values could also have been shown, together with the multiplier given by the above expression. That method of presentation would not have appeared as formidable as Table IV.

In conclusion, he would point out that *Fig. 3* (p. 172) was true only for sea-level. If it were applied at Johannesburg, for instance, there might be a repetition of the trouble which took place there some time ago!

Mr. V. G. BARFORD said that he had hoped that modern types of variable-speed engines, such as ordinary motor-vehicle engines, could have been dealt with in the Paper. He had often attempted to use the Author's methods in the past, particularly in connexion with marine practice, where there were engines of large size which ran at more or less uniform speeds and which were sometimes indicated, but the modern high-speed petrol engine was seldom indicated owing to the difficulty of doing so. It would have been most interesting had the Author explained how to deal with the problem according to his method for a variable-speed engine, and especially as he had given some advice regarding the determination of the thermometric efficiency. The Author's figures depended almost entirely on knowing that efficiency, which had to be found before a start could be made.

There were one or two small criticisms which Mr. Barford wished

Mr. Barford.

to make. With regard to *Fig. 12* (p. 188), he considered that it was essential to draw a straight line from the common zero of the two scales tangentially to the curves. That would at once indicate the point at which the "Tookey factor" was a maximum, which was the most interesting point. *Fig. 12*, moreover, was one of the few cases where the common zero of the two scales was shown on the diagram. That was something which he considered should always be done, as graphs of the type in question were very deceptive unless the common zero was shown. As an illustration, he would refer to *Fig. 4* (p. 178), where the zero of the mixture-strength scale happened to come right at the edge of the page. It would be much better if that were shown on the diagram, and then the method of ruling tangents to the curves could be applied, and would enable much useful information to be obtained and would save a good deal of time. Generally speaking, the point of chief interest on the chart was that which indicated the maximum efficiency, and if a tangent were ruled that point could be found immediately.

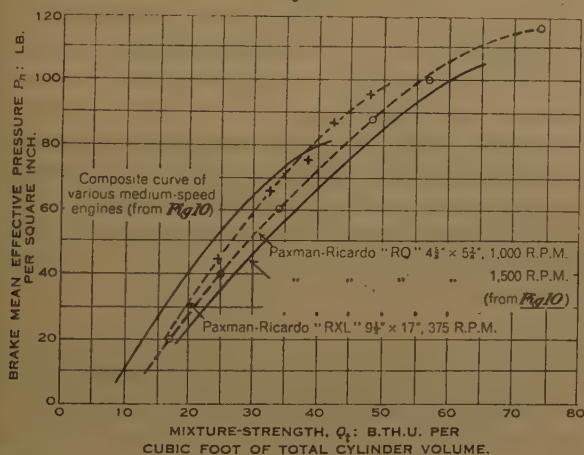
Mr. Paxman.

Mr. E. P. PAXMAN agreed with Lord Falmouth in preferring a simpler standard than the "Tookey factor," with all respect to the Author, because he thought that it was simpler to have the thermal efficiency expressed in absolute units, such as B.Th.U. per h.p.-hour, or some equally definite standard which required no thoughtful explanation. It was then possible to correlate that or plot it with any other factors desired, such as brake mean pressure at standard speeds or at varying speeds, or indicator figures.

With regard to *Fig. 8* (p. 183), it was of interest to note that the maximum, or at any rate the more efficient, combustion was obtained at higher speeds, and the figures at 1,500 revolutions per minute were substantially better than those at 700 to 800 revolutions per minute. *Fig. 9*, however, seemed to show an opposite result, and perhaps the Author could explain the apparent discrepancy. With regard to *Fig. 10* and the Author's remarks on the higher-speed engine, Mr. Paxman thought that it was not only the question of speed which accounted for the lower efficiency of the engine; other factors were the size of the cylinder and the extra heat-losses which were bound to be expected when dealing, as in the case in question, with a small cylinder of 10 h.p. output at 1,000 revolutions per minute (which was about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  litre capacity), and comparing it with engines having outputs ranging from 65 to well over 200 h.p. per cylinder. As an actual fact, as the Author said, if those figures were plotted on the indicated basis they came very much closer, but even then they could be improved, as Mr. Chorlton had rightly said, by an improvement in the form of the combustion-chamber. Those figures had been obtained on engines a year or two ago, and with the later form,

Mark III Comet Ricardo engine, an improvement in consumption Mr. Paxman. from  $7\frac{1}{2}$  to 8 per cent. could be expected, and in *Fig. 10* that would at the curve even for that small engine midway between the curve through the group of points and that for the high-speed engine. In *Fig. 19* Mr. Paxman had plotted some values for the larger type of Ricardo engine running at higher speeds, but with a cylinder-capacity comparable with those mentioned, and it would be seen that the points joined into the general run of curves from *Fig. 10* for engines of that size, which was interesting, and that at the top end of the range they extended very much farther. He disagreed with the Author's statement that the additional output of the higher-speed engine was obtained solely by reason of the ramming effect of the entering air; that was not the case, because it was possible

Fig. 19.



produce the same mean effective pressure in larger engines of relatively low piston-speed; the high mean effective pressures could be obtained fairly easily. It was due to making use of the volume of air which was in the cylinder. In the case of the other engines to which the Author referred, if the figures given were their maxima, they were not using the air. On the other hand, it might well be that they could use that air, but for fear of possible over-heating it was not prudent to run them in that manner.

Mr. Paxman's firm had recently carried out exhaustive tests on a new type of engine, and as a matter of interest, having regard to Mr. Robinson's suggested maxima, it might be mentioned that the brake mean pressures of an unsupercharged engine with a stroke of  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches were 131 lb. per square inch at 1,000 revolutions per minute and



Mr. Paxman.

126 lb. per square inch at 1,500 revolutions per minute. The figures corresponded to indicated mean pressures of well over 150 lb. per square inch, when the frictional losses were taken into account.

He would welcome the continuation of some of the curves shown right down to zero indicated pressure, and he saw no reason why that could not have been done, because by motoring the engine and supplying part of the power it was clearly easy to get right down to literally no combustion in the cylinder at all. It would be of interest in that case to see the effect on the efficiency by the standards which the Author had adopted.

Dr. Rowell.

Dr. H. S. ROWELL remarked that the Tookey factor was an extremely useful number, and, if its dimensions were analysed, that was not surprising. The mixture-strength in B.Th.U. per cubic foot had the same dimensions as the indicator mean pressure in lb. per square inch, so that the "Tookey factor" was a non-dimensional number which should be little affected by other variables. The effect of decreasing mixture-strength in increasing efficiency had been dealt with in a practical way. On p. 172, for example, an equation, which involved the expansion-ratio, was given showing the relation between the Tookey factor to efficiency. *Fig. 7* (p. 182) was a comprehensive diagram which showed over a very great range the utility of the Tookey factor. The surprising thing was that other variations of that number were used very widely in engineering. Most engineers who dealt with petrol engines spoke of the brake h.p. per litre at 1,000 revolutions per minute, and on analysis that would be found to be nothing more or less than a Tookey factor.

Professor  
Davies.

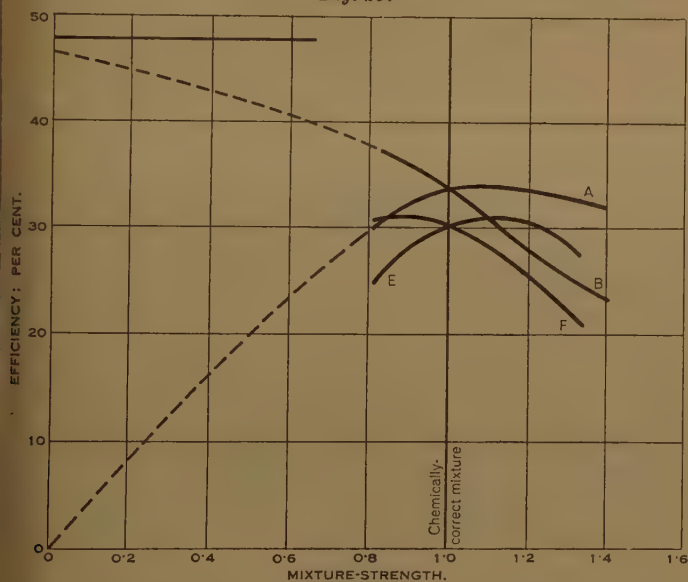
Professor S. J. DAVIES observed that the Author had shown in the Paper how good a practical criterion was the factor which bore his name. Whilst that was very satisfactory as a basis of comparison for the performance of existing engines, Professor Davies considered that something more was necessary in the case of tests made for development purposes, with the object of improving existing designs.

The Author referred on p. 190 to the work of Messrs. Tizard and Pye, and mentioned that they gave a value of  $n = 1.258$  for correct mixtures and  $n = 1.296$  for 20 per cent. weak mixtures. He did not, however, apparently think it necessary to point out the conditions under which Messrs. Tizard and Pye had derived those figures. The particular value of their work, to Professor Davies's mind, lay in the fact that their results represented a practical standard of comparison which took into account all the properties of the fuel mixtures, such as variable specific heats, dissociation, etc., which did not take into account the imperfections of actual engines, such as heat-losses to the walls, and unsatisfactory rates of combustion. Their results were presented for a compression-ratio

to 1, with petrol-air mixtures, and had a fundamental basis rather than an empirical one. Professor Davies had therefore thought it well to carry out similar calculations to theirs, but applicable to diesel-fuel-oil-air mixtures.

*Fig. 20* showed four curves: curve A was the original Tizard and the curve, while curve B was derived directly from that by dividing the values of A by the corresponding values of the mixture-strength, poorer and richer than 1.0 which corresponded to "chemically correct" proportions. Curve A showed the efficiency with which each lb. of air was utilized in the combustion when combined with various proportions of fuel; curve B showed the efficiency with which

*Fig. 20.*



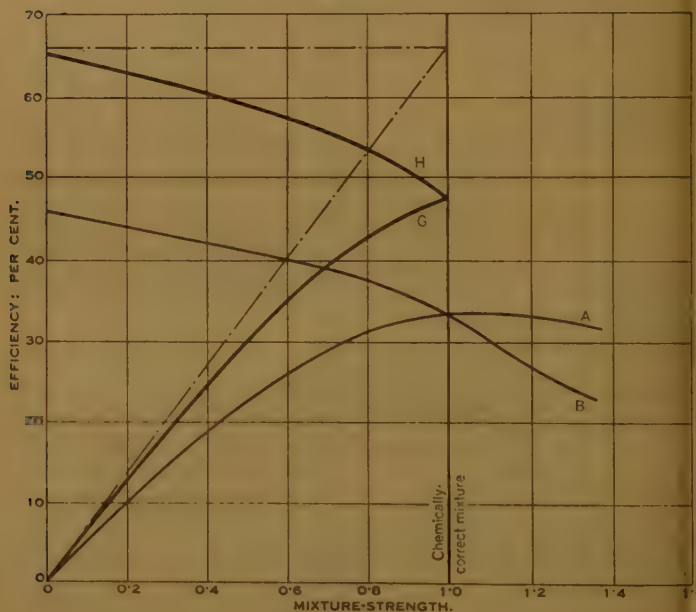
each lb. of fuel was utilized. Curve A intersected the vertical axis; curve B intersected the vertical axis at a value slightly less than that corresponding to that of the air standard efficiency, the small difference being due to variable specific heats. Curves E and F in *Fig. 20* showed the results from Mr. Ricardo's variable-compression engine, and were given for comparison.

The curves G and H shown in *Fig. 21* had been calculated by Mr. C. Stevens, a research student at King's College, London. Those curves corresponded to curves A and B (reproduced for comparison), but they related to a compression-ratio of 15 to 1, and fuel-oil-air

Professor  
Davies.

mixtures, working on a constant-volume cycle. For oil engines it was not necessary to go beyond a chemically-correct mixture-strength. The differences between the heights of A and G, and B and H, respectively, were merely due to the differences in compression-ratio. Under the conditions of the air-cycle standard, the efficiency on a fuel basis had the constant value given by the broken horizontal line, while the efficiency on an air basis was the broken straight line passing through the origin. With actual working substances, taken in deriving curves G and H, the temperatures and pressures

Fig. 21.



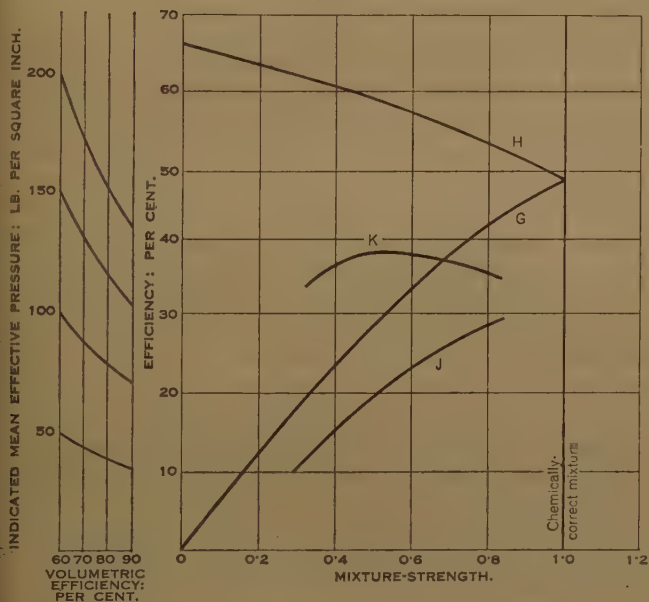
through which they passed during a cycle exerted a great influence on their specific heats and also on the amount of dissociation and re-combination taking place. Since the ranges of temperature and pressure were different for different mixture-strengths, the practical ideal efficiencies were modified accordingly. Curves G and H showed the results of those deviations from air-cycle conditions, G sloping away from the straight line and H having a pronounced downward tendency with increasing mixture-strength. G and H, of course, intersected at the ordinate corresponding to correct mixture-strength.

When curves derived from observations on actual engines were

compared with the practical curves of reference, G and H, some light was thrown on the conditions which determined output and efficiency. Other factors, as would be seen later, had to be taken into account in judging the practical behaviour of engines, but clear ideas concerning output and efficiency were obviously essential for sound design. A typical comparison was given in *Fig. 22*, where two curves, J and K, derived from tests of a commercial high-speed oil engine of similar compression-ratio, were shown against the reference-curves G and H. Curve J followed the form of curve G

Professor  
Davies.

*Fig. 22.*



fairly well, and demonstrated that, as was realized in practice, the output of mechanical energy per unit mass of air increased with increasing mixture-strength. Its general level was lower than that of G. The limiting output on curve J was taken at the point where the exhaust became visible, which was the usual practical limit. Curve J thus fell short of the reference-curve G in two respects: firstly, it lay lower at corresponding mixture-strengths, and secondly, it was limited as regards mixture-strength at the rich-mixture end of the curve. Dealing with the first point, it was clear that the higher that curve J could be carried, at any particular mixture-strength,



Professor  
Davies.

the greater the output, and—since that was interrelated with efficiency on an air basis—the better the efficiency on a fuel basis. Differences between curves G and J at any mixture-strength were due, on the one hand, to heat-losses to the walls, and, on the other, to deviations of the combustion from constant-volume conditions. With regard to the second deficiency of curve J, it followed from its upward tendency that the richer the mixture that could be burnt without the exhaust becoming objectionable, the higher was the maximum output to be obtained per lb. of air. In broad terms, that limitation obviously depended on the efficacy of the process for bringing the fuel into contact with the air supplied for its combustion.

Professor Davies's remarks so far had been restricted to relative efficiency with which each lb. of air and fuel might be utilized in the ideal cases (curves G and H) and in the actual practical cases (curves J and K). It was, however, clear that other things being equal, the output of an engine of particular cylinder dimensions, as expressed by the indicated mean effective pressure on the piston, would also depend directly upon the weight of air used for combustion in the cylinder in each cycle, that was to say, on the volumetric efficiency. The indicated mean effective pressure equalled a constant  $\times$  (the efficiency on an air basis)  $\times$  (the volumetric efficiency). For a typical fuel-oil relationship was  $P_m = 549\eta_a\eta_b$  lb. per square inch, where  $P_m$  denoted the indicated mean effective pressure, and  $\eta_a$  and  $\eta_b$  denoted the air-standard and volumetric efficiencies respectively, the efficiencies being in fractional form. The values of the indicated mean effective pressure corresponding to various values of volumetric efficiency were shown at the left of *Fig. 22*. The measurement of volumetric efficiency presented little difficulty, either by direct means or by analysis of the exhaust gases; the latter method was, for example, a regular routine observation on the buses of the London Passenger Transport Board, in order to check the carburation and performance of their engines.

The Author did not mention volumetric efficiency in connection with Table XV (p. 190), and in considering existing engines it was perhaps not necessary. Professor Davies, however, submitted that in development work it was essential to consider (a) the efficiency with which each lb. of air was used, (b) the efficiency with which each lb. of fuel was used, and (c) the volumetric or charging efficiency of the engine under consideration. Only when the values of any three of those efficiencies were known could the possible performance of the engine as regarded output and thermal efficiency be satisfactorily analysed.

Mr. C. B. DICKSEE said that the Tookey factor was extremely Mr. Dicksee. useful for those who had to deal in a practical way with engine development. In the past, a method of comparison had been used which involved taking the mean effective pressure plotted against the percentage of air used for the weight of fuel injected per unit volume of the cylinder. The Tookey factor, however, made it possible to compare directly values obtained at different loads. The Author's method gave the mean slope of the curve up to the point that was being considered. Mr. Dicksee thought that a good deal more attention should be paid to the brake mean effective pressure than to the indicated mean effective pressure. The latter was very useful to enable nice low consumption-figures to be quoted, but it did not mean much to the actual user, and on high-speed engines, with which Mr. Dicksee was associated, it was very difficult to obtain accurately the indicated mean effective pressure. The usual method employed was to motor the engine, hot, at the speed under consideration and to add the mean pressure corresponding to the motoring h.p. to the value of the brake mean effective pressure; that was probably at least as accurate as measuring the average indicator-diagram. Under those conditions on small high-speed engines it was possible to obtain figures which compared very favourably with those of the large slow-speed engines.

He had taken some figures from the latest type of Ricardo combustion-chamber recently tried out on a six-cylinder 8.8-litre engine. The maximum indicated mean effective pressure obtained was from 140 to 145 lb. per square inch over the speed-range, and the interesting point was that over a speed-range of from 1,000 to 2,000 revolutions per minute there was practically no difference in the mean effective pressure on the indicated basis, showing that such differences as were obtained on the brake basis were entirely due to mechanical considerations. With the engine adjusted for 100 h.p. at 1,500 revolutions per minute, the figures were 51.6 B.Th.U. per cubic foot at 1,000 revolutions per minute, the Tookey factor being 32, and 55.5 B.Th.U. per cubic foot at 1,500 revolutions per minute (owing to the rising metering-characteristic of the pump) with a Tookey factor of 2.28. At 2,000 revolutions per minute the heat-value was 56 B.Th.U. per cubic foot and the Tookey factor was 31. His firm had repeatedly found that when the results were plotted over speed-ranges there was very often a slight tendency towards improvement at the higher speeds as compared with the lower speeds on the indicated basis, showing that where there was adequate swirl there was no loss of thermodynamic efficiency with speed, because the combustion was able to keep pace with the piston-speed.

Mr. Dicksee.

The suggestion had been made in the discussion that the test should be run down to no load. They had actually run down about one-third of the no-load indicated power, using an electric dynamometer feeding back to the line. At about one-half of the no-load indicated power the efficiency tended to fall away, but down to that point it kept well up and followed the trend obtained down to no load. Volumetric efficiency had also been mentioned. With an ordinary hydrocarbon fuel in which the carbon/hydrogen ratio was known, a carefully-taken exhaust-gas analysis would make it possible to work out the volumetric efficiency with a high degree of accuracy, and that was a simple and effective method which did not require a large amount of apparatus.

Mr. Beaumont.

Mr. E. G. BEAUMONT remarked that in the last paragraph of the Paper the Author referred to the close approach to the air-cycle standard efficiency as being probably the point of most interest. From what was stated in the Paper, however, and from the remarks of many preceding speakers, a point of outstanding interest was the high maintained thermal efficiency of the small engine in relation to that of the big engine. It would be noticed, for instance, that the small high-speed engine referred to in Table XI (p. 186) showed a Tookey factor of 1.775, while the highest Tookey factor of an industrial-type engine was 2.07. In Table XIII (p. 188), referring to the two big marine engines, the figures were respectively 2.04 for the *Polyphemus* and 1.94 for the *Maron*. It would seem, therefore, utilizing the figures given in those Tables, and the curves in *Fig. 11* and *Fig. 12*, for determining the factors, that the examples included in the Paper showed that quite small engines had a thermal efficiency as high as, and in some cases higher than, that of engines which were thirty or forty times as large.

The Paper was devoted to a large extent to a review of gas-engine thermal performance, and what the Author termed the modern high-speed compression-ignition development was necessarily treated somewhat cursorily, but Mr. Dicksee had called attention to the fact that if modern examples of the small high-speed road-transportation compression-ignition engines were taken into account Tookey factors of well over 2 could be found. He had witnessed a test of an engine running at 1,500 revolutions per minute, which showed a fuel consumption of 0.375 lb. per brake h.p.-hour, the higher calorific value of the fuel being 19,400 B.Th.U. per lb. The engine developed 78 brake h.p. and had an equivalent heat value of 46.5 B.Th.U. per cubic foot, with a brake mean effective pressure of 98 lb. per square foot and a Tookey factor of 2.1. That was not an isolated example but was one of many similar cases.

The Paper formed a record which would be of value in years

come in enabling a comparison to be made with later practice, and Mr. Beaumont. For that reason Mr. Beaumont suggested that the particulars given of some of the engines in the Paper should be amplified, for example, in respect of their compression-ratio, bore and stroke, and injection-system, so that their leading characteristics might be known. If that were done it would enhance the value of the Paper.

\*\*\* Commander W. G. COWLAND observed that the Author's method of comparing the performances of internal-combustion engines was of especial interest to the Admiralty Engineering Laboratory, where a somewhat similar method was used for comparing the performances of compression-ignition engines. In the method employed there the basic factor for comparison, which was called the "combustion-factor," was proportional to the energy supplied to the engine per unit of the volume swept by the piston in the firing stroke. The combustion-factor was derived as follows:—

Let  $E$  denote the energy supplied per cycle per unit of piston-swept volume in the firing stroke.

„  $F$  „ „ fuel-consumption in lb. per hour.  
 „  $J$  „ „ Joule's Equivalent in foot-lb. per B.Th.U.  
 „  $C$  „ „ calorific value of the fuel, in B.Th.U. per lb.  
 „  $V_s$  „ „ piston-swept volume in cubic feet.  
 „  $N$  „ „ number of firing strokes per minute.

Then the energy supplied per minute =  $\frac{F}{60} \times C \times J$ , and, since the swept volume multiplied by the firing strokes per minute =  $V_s \times N$ ,

$$E = \frac{F}{V_s \times N} \times \frac{C \times J}{60} \quad \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

But, from the horse-power formula,

$$\frac{144 V_s \times N}{33,000} = \frac{\text{brake h.p.}}{P_n} = \frac{\text{indicator h.p.}}{P_m},$$

where  $P_n$  denoted the brake mean effective pressure, in lb. per square inch,

and  $P_m$  „ „ indicator mean pressure, in lb. per square inch.

Then, substituting in (1),

$$E = \frac{144 \times C \times J}{60 \times 33,000} \times P_n \times F_n \quad \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

\*\*\* This contribution was submitted in writing.—ACTING SEC. INST. C.E.



Commander  
Cowland,

where  $F_n$  denoted the fuel-consumption per brake h.p.-hour in lb.

$$\text{or} \quad E = \frac{144 \times C \times J}{60 \times 33,000} \times P_m \times F_m, \quad \dots \dots \dots (3)$$

where  $F_m$  denoted the fuel-consumption per indicated h.p.-hour in

Of those two expressions, the former was to be preferred, since and the brake h.p. could be determined for any engine with a high degree of accuracy, whereas the measurement of  $P_m$  was subject to greater error and was limited to low-speed engines.

If the product  $P_n \times F_n$  were called the "combustion-factor," then  $E = 0.0566 \times C \times \phi \quad \dots \dots \dots (4)$

For a given fuel  $\phi$  was directly proportional to  $E$ . Since the fuel used in compression-ignition engines had approximately the same calorific value, the value of  $\phi$  could be used as a basis for graphical comparison of engine-performances.

The simple product of  $P_n$  and  $F_n$  was thus readily determined from measurements that could be made with a high degree of accuracy and that were invariably made in the normal course of testing an engine. If comparisons of performances were to be made for engines using fuels of widely-different calorific values, for example a comparison between a gas engine and a compression-ignition engine, it would be necessary to use values of  $E$  calculated by means of equation (4). In calculating  $E$  for the gas engine, the consumption would be expressed in cubic feet per brake h.p.-hour, and the calorific value in B.Th.U. per cubic foot. It was suggested that in such cases the combustion-factor, based as it was on piston-swept volume, was more readily determined, and was a truer basis of comparison, than the Author's factor  $Q_v$ , which favoured the engine with the low compression-ratio.

A diagram in which values of  $P_n$  were plotted against the corresponding values of  $\phi$ , whilst being a graphical representation of engine-performance, also contained the information for the ready calculation of :—

$$(a) \text{ the fuel-consumption per brake h.p.-hour} = \frac{\phi}{P_n}$$

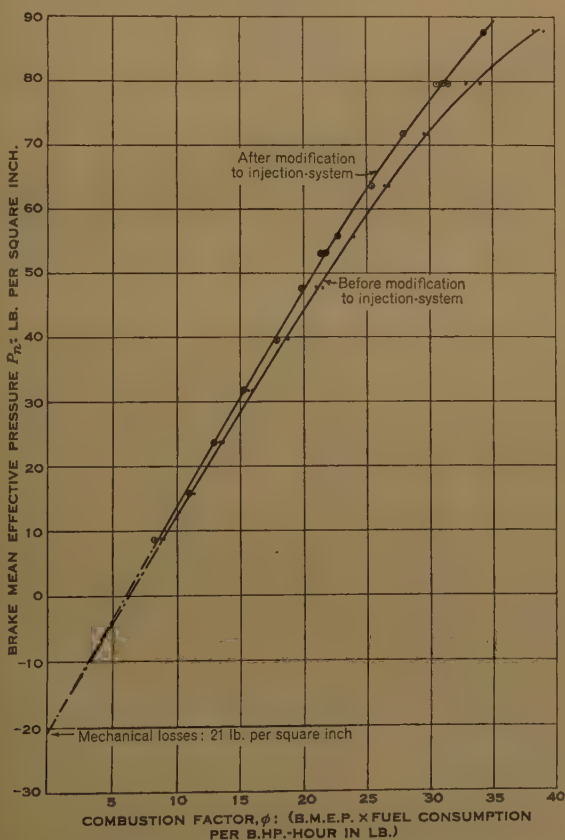
$$(b) \text{ the thermal efficiency (brake)} = \frac{P_n}{\phi} \times \frac{2,545}{C}$$

For low-speed engines, where  $P_m$  could be determined with reasonable accuracy, the graph of  $P_m$  against  $\phi$  showed the combustion-performance of the engine. The fuel-consumption per indicated h.p. hour and the thermal efficiency could be calculated by the appropriate

substitutions in the relations given above. For high-speed engines the graph of  $P_n$  against  $\phi$  for a range of powers at constant speed might be used to estimate the mechanical losses and the corresponding values of  $P_m$  at that speed.<sup>1</sup> An example of the application for a small four-cylinder "direct-injection" engine was given in *Fig. 23*. That diagram was also of particular interest in showing the improve-

Commander  
Cowland.

*Fig. 23.*



ment of combustion-performance obtained by adjustment to the fuel-injection system while the mechanical losses remained unaltered.

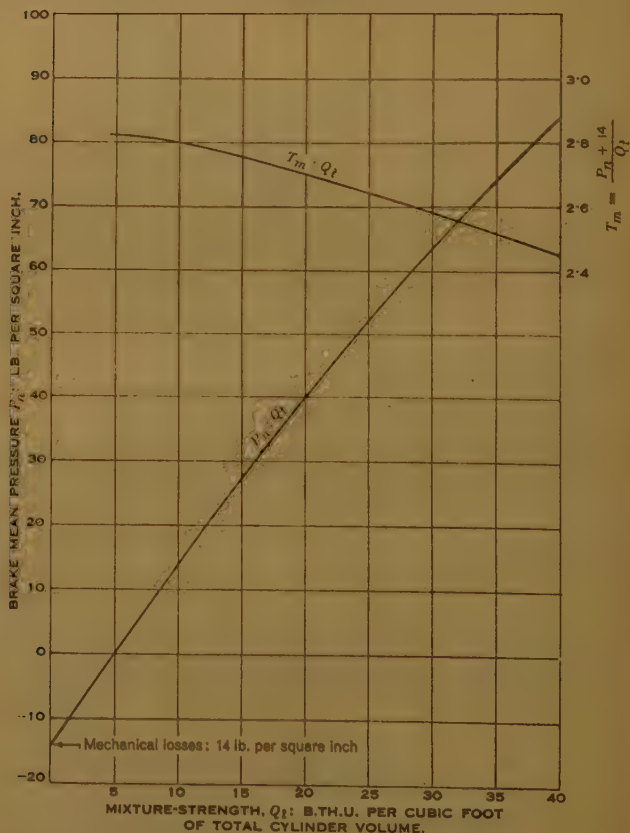
Use of the combustion-factor also simplified the calculation of the volumetric efficiency of the engine. The percentage of excess air was first determined from an exhaust-gas analysis. The volumetric

<sup>1</sup> W. G. Cowland and P. Henderson, "A 'Combustion Factor' Diagram for I. Engines," *The Engineer*, vol. clxiii (1937), p. 183.

Commander  
Cowland.

efficiency was then given by  $\eta_e = \left\{ 1 + \left( \frac{\text{percentage of excess air}}{100} \right) \right\} \times 0.0138 \times \phi$ . The constant given was for fuel requiring 14.5 lb. of air for complete combustion of 1 lb. of fuel, and  $\eta_e$  denoted the ratio  $\left( \frac{\text{air induced}}{\text{piston-swept volume}} \right)$  per suction stroke, in terms of air at 60° F. and 14.7 lb. per square inch absolute.

Fig. 24.



In conclusion, he would draw the Author's attention to Fig. (p. 189). In that figure the form of the  $T_m$ -curve was incorrect as it tended to an impossible value of thermal efficiency when  $Q_t$  was made zero. The values of  $P_n$  and  $Q_t$  given in Table XV (p. 190) had been plotted in Fig. 24. Extrapolation of the line indicated mechanical

presses equivalent to 14 lb. per square inch, as compared with the 18 lb. Commander  
 per square inch stated on p. 189. Using the lower value for the Cowland.  
 mechanical losses to compute new values for  $P_m$  and  $T_m$ , the resultant  
 $m$ -curve, also plotted in *Fig. 24*, was seen to be normal in form, but  
 the corresponding thermal efficiencies were, of course, much lower  
 than those quoted in Table XV.

The AUTHOR, in reply, observed that Sir John Thornycroft had The Author.  
 referred to other factors that influenced the performance of internal-  
 combustion engines, besides those that were taken into account  
 when comparing the mean pressure with the mixture-strength of the  
 fuel admitted at each cycle as shown by the Tookey factor, and had  
 indicated variations in fuel-characteristics and in the degree of  
 turbulence, which in some engines were very important. It should  
 be pointed out, however, that fuel-characteristics and turbulence  
 were physical and mechanical differences respectively, whilst the  
 ratio between the work output in terms of mean pressure and  
 the heat input in B.Th.U. was a true and basic measure of com-  
 bustion-efficiency as actually achieved by any engine of any type of  
 construction with any fuel. Lord Falmouth and Mr. E. P. Paxman  
 had intimated that the comparison between engine-performances on  
 the basis of thermal efficiency was commonly expressed as the  
 percentage of the heat in the fuel converted into work in terms of  
 indicator h.p. or preferably brake h.p., and that that method gave  
 information desired by designers and experimenters. That fact  
 was, of course, undeniable, but in the Author's experience it was  
 a nuisance when studying differences in engine-performances, and  
 especially in the development of new types or improvement of old  
 ones, to realize the actual number of heat units taking part in com-  
 bustion at each impulse, and not merely the standard of performance  
 which the "thermal efficiency" as usually stated connoted. In  
 point of fact, the Tookey factor was an index to thermal efficiency,  
 as shown by the formula at the foot of p. 172. When exhaust-gas  
 thermometer readings and exhaust-gas analysis in terms of  $\text{CO}_2$   
 were plotted on the mixture-strength basis adopted by the  
 Author, the performance of an engine could be studied analytically  
 in a manner impossible when thermal efficiency was the only  
 measuring-stick."

The reason why the Author preferred the mixture-strength to be  
 expressed in terms of fuel only was that the basis of  $Q_t$  was easily  
 calculated. For any engine of which the clearance-ratio was known,  
 the clearance-volume could be closely estimated, it was a simple matter to compute the  
 total cylinder-volume for a single- or multi-cylinder engine. Know-  
 ing the engine-speed, the number of impulses per minute would per-  
 mit the total cylinder-volume per minute to be ascertained. The



The Author.

rate of fuel-consumption per minute multiplied by its calorific value divided by the total cylinder-volume per minute gave the value of  $Q_i$ . For engines running at a uniform speed at all loads a "constant" could be calculated at the beginning of each series of tests which when multiplied by the observed rates of fuel-consumption, would once give the values of  $Q_i$ .

The amount of air present in any internal-combustion engine cylinder was not readily determinable, and, after all, it was the number of heat units consumed that finally determined the performance of the engine. With due deference to those who employed the term "unity mixture-strength," and expressed variations as many per cent. weak or strong as the case might be, those expressions were of little value to the engineer whose task was to get through a series of engine-tests with expedition and to report results under commercial conditions. Such a man wished to compare one engine with another, and if, for example, one gave a smoky exhaust while another ran with clean exhaust he wanted to be able to detect the cause of the trouble. Obviously it was important to know whether the strength of mixture in B.Th.U. was the same in each case for a given power-output. The mixture-strength expressed in the form of  $Q_i$  would at once give him a correct basis for such a determination, and he could then check the injection, timing, turbulence, volumetric efficiency, and so on with greater confidence. On the basis employed by the Author it was immaterial, as the Paper showed, whether the air was throttled, induced at atmospheric pressure, or forced in under pressure. In the first case the rate of fuel efficiently consumed would be strictly limited, and in the third the normal rate would be exceeded, but the relation of the heat input  $Q_i$  to the output expressed as brake mean effective pressure or indicator mean pressure would be on the same simple basis in all three cases.

The improvement in efficiency brought about by higher compression-ratios, as mentioned by Lord Falmouth, was well known: it had been indicated by the Author in 1914 in the discussion on the Paper.<sup>1</sup>

The answer to Lord Falmouth's final question (p. 197) was that the points plotted in *Fig. 11* were all from the same engine with the same valve-timing. The latter had been altered from the usual timing for normal atmospheric charging in the direction of a longer period of overlap of exhaust and inlet openings.

Mr. Chorlton had expressed disappointment that the Paper had been limited in scope. The discussion showed that already enough subjects had been included to provide material for a welcome amount

<sup>1</sup> Footnote (3), p. 167.

of criticism, and, as the chief object was to compare the performances of commercial engines and to indicate similarities, it would have seemed the issue to have endeavoured to deal with the practical considerations, limitations and factors which brought about dissimilarities. The Author has touched upon exhaust-pipe resistances in relation to combustion-efficiency only, and had not attempted to deal with the many questions of heat-recovery to which Mr. Chorlton had directed attention. It might, however, be mentioned that probably the most modern installation for the recovery of heat from the exhaust-gases was that referred to in a recent Paper by Mr. J. M. Watson.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Chorlton had expressed a doubt whether the Author was correct in stating that increase of air volumetric efficiency was sometimes due to the "ramming" effect occasioned by the kinetic energy of entering charges of air. The Author unhesitatingly repeated his opinion, and could instance improvements in the performance of two-stroke-cycle engines of the crankcase-compression type when air-trunks had been fitted to the crankcase valve-covers. Similarly, certain high-speed diesel engines were notorious for "dirty" exhaust, and these were of a design which provided no passage through which the entering air could acquire velocity. It was now not at all uncommon to find engines made with inlet-valves larger than exhaust-valves, so that the exhaust-gases left at high velocity and thus gave a greater induction effect to the entering column of air, so as to encourage the ramming effect.

The contribution of Mr. I. V. Robinson was very interesting. The Author had worded his Paper to avoid mathematics as far as possible so that it could be understood and perhaps made use of by practical men who had little time for anything but their own immediate duties. The upper limits of  $P_m$  and  $Q_t$  computed by Mr. Robinson from the curves given were certainly of interest, and it was a fact that a value of  $P_m$  of 140 to 160 lb. per square inch was apparently the maximum obtainable by normally-charged engines. Present practice seemed to set a limit to  $P_m$  of about 100 lb. per square inch for both gas and oil engines when atmospherically charged—in the words of the British Standard Specification—they were expected to work "without undue heating or other mechanical trouble." Mr. Robinson was quite correct in commenting that *Fig. 3* (p. 172) referred only to sea-level conditions, but the actual compression-pressure attained at high altitudes could be computed by varying the numeral 15 given in the formula (which represented the

<sup>1</sup> "West Middlesex Main Drainage." *Journal Inst. C.E.*, vol. 5, (1936-37) 463. (April 1937.)

The Author. atmospheric pressure with the barometer at 30 inches of mercury to accord with the height of barometer at the high altitude. I reference to a case at Johannesburg was surely inappropriate. It was not the high altitude that had caused trouble but the deficiencies of the gas-producing apparatus.

With regard to the differences to which Mr. Robinson had called attention in respect of the behaviour of different engines, the reason was to be found in the fact that, whereas the compression-ignition engine was designed to create a compression-temperature above the ignition-point of the fuel, gas-engine charges could only be fired by electric or other means and the resulting rate of flame-propagation was then not constant at all degrees of mixture-strength because of the influence of the skin-temperature of the cylinder-walls, which might be high at or immediately after full loads and low at light loads.

Mr. Barford would realize from what had already been stated in reply that there was no need for him to worry overmuch about volumetric efficiency. The combustion-efficiency mattered more, and, as Mr. Dicksee had pointed out, a simple test with an Orsat-type apparatus to determine exhaust-gas composition would give a direct indication of the sufficiency or otherwise of oxygen in the air charge. With regard to Mr. Barford's suggestion that the common zeros for both scales of the Figures should have been shown, the original diagrams had been drawn in that manner, but for reproduction in the Journal it had been thought better not to have much blank space.

If Mr. Paxman preferred to employ B.Th.U. per brake h.p.-hour as a standard of comparison, he at once complicated his figures with quantities which involved cylinder-dimensions and speed—matters which surely involved more thought and explanation than the fundamental bases of B.Th.U. per unit of volume and mean pressure per unit of piston-area. Habit was usually inimical to change, perhaps later on Mr. Paxman would find his habit old-fashioned and somewhat restrictive. Regarding the question of heat-losses, it seemed to the Author altogether wrong to attribute low combustion-efficiencies to their effect. Heat was not released from fuel until it was burnt, and therefore the combustion-efficiency depended more upon pre-treatment before ignition than upon losses after ignition to the water-jacket, to the exhaust, and by radiation. If Mr. Paxman would plot performances on the basis of  $Q_b$ , and then, knowing the thermal efficiency, would calculate upon the accepted basis how many heat units were actually converted into work, he would find that towards the maximum output of any engine the number of heat units converted remained almost constant, the number of heat units passing to water also remaining almost constant but

number escaping to exhaust increasing vastly. That was a lesson The Author, that the use of B.Th.U. per h.p.-hour entirely cloaked. Mr. Paxman no doubt realized that piston-speed in itself gave no information regarding the ramming effect.

Dr. Rowell's remarks were most welcome, as were those of Mr. Picksee, and the experience of both gentlemen was such that their opinions were particularly valuable. It was because the Author realized that commercial considerations favoured comparison on a basis of brake mean effective pressure that he had brought into his tables the ratio  $P_n/Q_t$ . Mr. Beaumont's comments were also much appreciated.

Professor Davies had been to some trouble to co-ordinate the work of Messrs. Tizard and Pye on mixtures of petrol and air with his own work on mixtures of diesel-oil and air. The Author was of the opinion that the evaluation of mixture-strength in terms of the chemically-correct mixture, which was taken as unity, was more suitable for academic than for commercial purposes, since it entailed computation from an accurate fuel-analysis and could not readily be employed on the test-bed or in the works. The Author had already propounded his views with regard to heat-losses to cylinder-walls, but it might perhaps be further stated that many experiments by many engineers in the development departments of many manufacturers had failed to find that efficiency was greatly, if at all, affected by varying cylinder-wall temperatures. Combustion-efficiency depended largely upon pre-treatment of the charge before ignition and—as Professor Davies had stated—upon the efficacy of the processes of bringing fuel into contact with air before and during combustion. The reason why the Author had not specially mentioned volumetric efficiency had already been explained.

Commander Cowland's valuable work at the Admiralty Engineering Laboratory was known to the Author from a personal visit and from discussions at various times. It would perhaps be interesting to record that the Author's formula for computing the brake mean effective pressure was  $WK/N$ ,

in which  $W$  denoted the output per cylinder in brake h.p.,

$K$  „ a constant  $= 229/V_s$ .

$V_s$  „ the piston-displacement in cubic feet, and

$N$  „ the impulses per minute;

$Q_n$  denoted the B.Th.U. per brake h.p. per minute,

$$229 \times \frac{r}{r-1} \div Q_n = T_n,$$

$$Q_t = P_n/T_n.$$



The Author.

Those formulas were applicable to all internal-combustion engines whether using gaseous or liquid fuel. The Author preferred to express the mixture-strength in terms of B.Th.U. per cubic foot total rather than of swept cylinder-volume, because the larger the clearance-space the more heat units had to be present to bring the mixture-strength before combustion to a given heat-density and vice versa. The values of  $P_m/Q_t$  then permitted comparison of combustion-efficiencies irrespective of the change of efficiency directly attributable to change of compression-ratio. The additional combustion-efficiency attained beyond that due to a change in the value of  $r/(r-1)$  could not be appreciated unless the value of  $Q_t$  were taken as a basis of comparison. As to the form of the curve of  $T_m$  in Fig. 13 (p. 189), the upper limit for a thermal efficiency of 100 per cent—with zero mixture-strength in zero clearance volume—was, of course, 5.4 (as was shown by the formula at the bottom of p. 17).

The extrapolation acceptable to Commander Cowland in Fig. 13 (p. 216) assumed a mean combustion-efficiency which did not increase at the lower output. One of the Author's objects in writing this Paper had been to point out that combustion-efficiency at light loads increased at a rate which had hitherto been unsuspected. It was the compression-ignition engine's immunity from the external influences that otherwise would prevent prompt ignition of weak charges that had, at last, enabled engineers to realize that fact. The column headed "Difference-factor" in Table XIV (p. 189) was surely conclusive on that point.

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\*\*\* The Correspondence on the foregoing Paper will be published in the Institution Journal for October, 1938.—ACTING SEC. INST. OF MECH. ENGRS.

## ORDINARY MEETING.

16 November, 1937.

SYDNEY BRYAN DONKIN, President,  
in the Chair.

The following Paper was submitted for discussion, and, on the motion of the President, the thanks of The Institution were accorded to the Author.

Paper No. 5146.

## "Dover Train-Ferry Dock."†

By GEORGE ELLSON, O.B.E., M. Inst. C.E.

	TABLE OF CONTENTS.	PAGE
History . . . . .		223
Design of works . . . . .		225
Construction of works . . . . .		228
Blockwork walls . . . . .		228
Pump-chamber . . . . .		230
Walls and floor of dock . . . . .		233
Pump-house . . . . .		234
Dock-sill and jambs . . . . .		235
Dock-gates . . . . .		237
Machinery-pit shafts . . . . .		239
Link-span bridge . . . . .		239
Approach-jetty . . . . .		240
Pumps . . . . .		243
Motor-car ramp and drawbridge . . . . .		245
New Clarence quay . . . . .		245
Conclusion . . . . .		245

## HISTORY.

THE first record of a scheme for communication between Dover and the Continent by means of a Channel ferry is of that proposed by Mr. (afterwards Sir) John Fowler, Past-President Inst. C.E., who gave the project considerable attention from the year 1864 onwards. Fowler selected Dover as the best starting-point on the English side. At about that time proposals had been put forward for both a Channel tunnel and a Channel bridge. The latter proposal he discarded as too ridiculous to discuss; as to the former, he regarded his proposal

† Correspondence on this Paper can be accepted until the 15th March, 1938.  
—ACTING SEC. INST. C.E.

for a ferry as comparable with a tunnel in the sense that it was a continuous communication, the essence of it being that carriages, goods-trucks and mails should be carried across without breaking bulk. He had in view boats of about 450 feet long, 6,000 tons burden and 10,000 horse-power, capable of carrying a train of sixteen carriages, the weight of which he estimated at a little over 100 tons.

He proposed that a new harbour of an area of 95 acres should be obtained so as to secure perfectly still water for the use of the ferry-boats. The water-station was to be fitted with hydraulic lifts, wharves, and the necessary apparatus for the passage of the trains to the steamer. The hydraulic lift was to be half as long as the vessel, and trains of the London, Chatham & Dover and the South-Eastern Railway Companies were to be put on the lift as they arrived and run on board the boat side by side. Sir William (later Lord) Armstrong, Past-President Inst. C.E., had been consulted about the machinery, and undertook to provide lifts which would complete the operation in 1 minute. Mr. Fowler, more cautiously, thought that 5 minutes would not be an unreasonable delay; he estimated the cost of the works at £890,000.<sup>1</sup>

The French Government gave favourable assurances regarding their end of the Ferry, and a Bill to authorize the works came before Parliament in 1872. It passed the House of Commons Committee, but owing to lack of support from the South-Eastern and the London, Chatham & Dover Railway Companies it was thrown out by the House of Lords Committee.

In more recent years powers have been obtained on three occasions for the construction of docks at Dover at or near the site of the train-ferry dock, the last proposal being authorized in 1920, the Engineers being Messrs. Baker and Hurtzig and Mr. A. T. Walmisley. These proposals were, however, abandoned.

During the War, and for a short time subsequently, train-ferries which rendered great service were operated between the port of Richborough, on the Dover and Deal line, and Calais, but the necessary depth of water required for the vessels to reach their berth at Richborough only existed at high water, and constant dredging of the channel of the river Stour at heavy cost was required to maintain it.

When the Channel Tunnel Commissioners' report was issued in 1930 and the subsequent Government decision against the carrying out of the scheme in the near future was announced, the Southern Railway Company decided to proceed with a train-ferry scheme connecting Dover with a port on the other side of the Channel.

<sup>1</sup> T. Mackay, "Life of Sir John Fowler," p. 206.

## DESIGN OF WORKS.

The considerations which led to the selection of Dover as the most suitable site for the English terminal were as follows :—

- (1) Its proximity to France.
- (2) Its convenient rail access to and from London.
- (3) The availability of the necessary depth of water at all states of the tide.

The most suitable site available at Dover for berthing the ferries was one immediately adjacent to Dover Marine station, where rail access was directly available. Besides adding to the convenience of working and supervision, the close proximity of this site to the existing Marine station also has the great advantage of allowing convenient interchange between that station and the ferry of rail-passengers other than those proceeding to the Continent by through sleeping-cars.

The ferry-vessels for the cross-channel services were designed with a length of 359 feet, a beam of 63 feet 9 inches, and a mean laden draught of 12 feet 6 inches. The train-deck carries four railway-tracks capable of holding a total of twelve coaches or forty wagons. The after part of the train-deck is also available for holding large motor vehicles which cannot conveniently travel in the garage on the upper deck. The vessels have a gross tonnage of 2,839 tons, with 4,900 indicated horse-power.

The ordinary method of constructing a ferry terminal would not have been possible at Dover, as there is an extreme range of 25 feet between the highest and lowest water-level at spring tides, and the passage of such vehicular traffic as long bogie-coaches between the ferries and the shore would have necessitated at lowest tides an inclined approach about 500 feet long. The raising and lowering of such a structure to the required gradients to suit any tidal conditions, coupled with the extreme difficulty which would have been found in mooring a vessel in the open water of the harbour at the end of such an approach and keeping it there during transhipment of traffic in any but calm weather, would have rendered the working of the services impracticable. As it is necessary to work a regular train-schedule with probable future extensions of the services, it was decided that the scheme should consist of an enclosed and water-tight dock in which to berth the ferry-vessels, where the water-level could be raised or lowered by pumps to the required berthing level, and the dock-gates could be opened and closed in practically all weathers.

The geological formation of the sea-bed at the site selected consists of the lower grey chalk. Many engineering works which have been



carried out in the vicinity have consistently revealed the chalk to be of a solid and homogeneous character, and additional mention may be made of the following experimental works which have been executed for the purpose of ascertaining the nature of the chalk from the point of view of its being impervious to water :—

- (1) A heading driven in 1880 from a site at the foot of Abbots-cliff above the level of the sea, which at the present time is in a wonderful state of preservation, and is practically free from water.
- (2) The experimental heading of the Channel tunnel, 7 feet in diameter, which commences at the foot of Shakespeare cliff close to the foreshore, and extends  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mile in an easterly direction towards the Admiralty pier, Dover. This heading was practically impervious to water, and was driven during the years 1882 and 1883.
- (3) A heading 12 feet in diameter driven in 1922 over the top of the Martello tunnel at the western end of Folkestone Warren. This tunnel was also quite impervious to water.

The level of the top of the chalk over the proposed site of the dock was known, and it was considered that it would be possible to construct the dock in the dry, although it was anticipated that a certain amount of pumping would have to be done.

When the work of construction was commenced the original intention was to contain the site of the dock within a cofferdam formed of a double row of steel sheet-piles driven into the chalk, stiffened at suitable intervals by steel diaphragms, thus making the dam into a series of boxes; the spaces so formed were intended to be filled with chalk or other suitable material.

It was, however, found that the hardness of the chalk allowed only limited penetration with the piles, and when the first short length of sheeting had been driven, the piling was loosened to a considerable extent by the rough water before it could be properly stiffened. It was, therefore, decided not to proceed with this method but, by a slight modification in the design, to construct the enclosing walls of the dock in such a way as to enable them to act as a cofferdam.

Fig. 1, Plate 1, shows the plan of the scheme, from which it will be seen that the area in which the dock itself was to be constructed would be enclosed by concrete walls with an opening in a suitable position to form the entrance to the dock. This entrance would require closing temporarily, and it was anticipated that the enclosed area could then be pumped out to enable the construction of the

dock and pump-house to proceed in the ordinary way in the dry. Fig. 2, Plate 1, shows the sections of the enclosing walls, which are built on mass-concrete foundations about 1 foot thick and consist of pre-cast concrete blocks each weighing from 9 to 12 tons. In order to render them impervious to water-pressure, the joints are of the type known as "sausage" joints.<sup>1</sup> The method of bonding the blocks is also shown in Fig. 2, Plate 1.

In view of the pressures to be borne, coupled with considerable wave-action in stormy weather, much consideration was given to the method of temporarily closing the dock entrance, the probable alternatives being :—

- (1) A horizontal arch of concrete blocks which could subsequently be removed.
- (2) A horizontal steel arch.
- (3) A steel caisson of rectangular cross-section.

Ultimately it was decided to adopt the third method, and it may here be briefly stated that the caisson was built at a shipyard on the north-east coast and towed to Dover, where at the proper time it was put into position and the entrance to the inner area sealed up. The caisson was provided with valves to allow of its being flooded as required.

The dock itself at its inner end is curved to fit the stern of the train-ferry vessels. Its depth is 45·72 feet and the general level of the dock coping is + 20·30 O.D. The dock bottom is at a level of -25·42 O.D. and this gives a depth of 3 feet of water below the vessel at the lowest recorded tide-level in recent years.

The floor of the dock is of concrete 5 feet thick. The ferry-vessels are connected to the shore by means of a link bridge of 70 feet span. The normal berthing level is + 6·5 O.D., and at this level the bridge is horizontal.

A longitudinal section of the dock is given in Fig. 3, Plate 1. The pump-house is situated on the north side of the dock in the position shown in Fig. 1, Plate 1, and the siding-accommodation which is being provided is also shown there.

The proximity of the Admiralty quay and of the entrance to the Dover Inner Harbour to the site of the dock necessitated the provision of an approach-jetty alongside which the ferries could first be warped before entering the dock. This jetty is 400 feet long and 30 feet wide.

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<sup>1</sup> These joints were first employed at Tranmere dock; see P. W. Bertlin, "Construction of the New Entrance to Tranmere Dock," Minutes of Proceedings Inst. C.E., vol. 221 (1925-26, Part I), p. 241.

## CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

*Blockwork Walls.*

The construction of the enclosing walls of the dock was the first portion of the work undertaken. The dredging or grabbing of the chalk to the approximate level under water was done by means of 10-ton electric derrick-cranes supported on piles driven in the sea-bed and so arranged that the cranes could command the whole site of the walls. The dredged bottom was levelled by divers, who then set old rails to the correct line and level of the underside of the first course of concrete blocks. Mass concrete about 1 foot thick was then laid by means of under-water bottom-opening skips, and divers guided the concrete into its correct position. When sufficient had been laid in this manner the surface was levelled by screeds which the divers manipulated on the tops of the rails. The blocks for the walls were then lowered into position by means of the derrick-cranes and were set by divers in the usual manner.

The block walls terminated in two massive heads at the dock-entrance, these heads being designed to take up the thrust of the gates and also temporarily that of the service caisson, and in order to ensure their complete stability all joints therein were grouted with strong cement grout. A mass-concrete sill 7 feet 6 inches thick was also laid by divers between the two heads, extending for a distance of 55 feet towards the inside of the dock, this sill being part of the permanent work (Fig. 3, Plate 1).

Concurrently with the construction of the walls the necessary dredging of the sea-bed at the approach to the dock to a depth of — 25·42 O.D. was put in hand. This proved to be very slow and difficult work, owing to the hard and consistent character of the chalk as well as the frequent heavy swell in the harbour. The buckets on the dredger employed were of  $\frac{1}{2}$  cubic yard capacity, and each bucket was fitted with two cast manganese-steel teeth which scraped out the chalk in shallow cuts. It was found only possible to dredge an average of 1,200 cubic yards per week, although the work proceeded night and day whenever sea conditions permitted.

When the outer walls were completed, the caisson was towed into position and gradually sunk by the admission of water. This caisson was 92 feet long by 60 feet deep by 28 feet wide, and weighed 525 tons. Vertical bearing-faces were formed in the heads of the dock-entrance, against which it would abut on either side, and a suitable face was also made in the concrete sill at the bottom of the dock for the horizontal bearing.

In order to form a seal, a limpet of oakum enclosed in a canvas covering was fastened to the three bearing-faces of the caisson

corresponding to the two vertical faces of the dock-heads and the bottom horizontal face of the sill. This proved very effective, and when the water-level was subsequently lowered in the enclosed area there was no discernible leakage at the junction of the caisson with the dock-walls.

Efforts were then made to pump the enclosed area dry with service pumps, but it was found that, although a head of from 12 to 20 feet could be sustained, the difference in pressure owing to the water in the enclosed area being pumped to a lower level than that outside caused an inflow of water through the sea-bed in the immediate vicinity of the works greater than the pumps could discharge. The usual methods of sealing such leakages by means of depositing mud and stopping up certain cavities which appeared were employed, but as they could only be used over a very limited area, owing to the adjacent entrance to the Dover Inner Harbour, they proved unsuccessful and did not result in any material change in the rate of inflow.

It was ascertained by means of colour tests that numerous fissures existed which were not of a character that could be stopped efficiently in the small area available for treatment. These colour tests were made by inserting small linen bags filled with permanganate of potash in fissures which were located by divers outside the enclosed area. The greater pressure outside forced the sea-water through the permanganate of potash, and the water thus coloured appeared at places inside the enclosed area. It further appeared that the employment of more powerful pumps might result in the enlargement of the fissures. Further, a much greater head of water, about 50 feet, would have had to be resisted to enable the work to be carried out in the dry, as compared with a maximum of 20 feet which had hitherto been maintained. With these considerations in mind, various other methods of carrying out the work were closely examined. A very ingenious way of carrying out the freezing process was devised by the specialists who were consulted, but it was felt that its doubtful success, coupled with the certain delay which would ensue, rendered it inadvisable to try this method. It was ultimately decided to devise special means for dealing with the more intricate portions of the under-water work and to carry out the works in the wet, constructing the dock, complete with the sill, floor and walls and also the adjoining pumping-chamber, without dewatering the site.

The first operation was the excavation of the chalk in the enclosed area. This was done by the dredger, and the work was carried out in two sections. The first section, which included the area on which the pump-house was to be constructed as well as the eastern half of



the dock-area, was done during the summer months with the temporary caisson from the entrance removed, and though progress was slow the work was satisfactorily accomplished at the rate of 1,200 cubic yards per week by working day and night when the weather allowed.

In order to secure the earliest possible completion of the works, it was necessary to proceed with as much of the permanent work as practicable concurrently with the dredging of the second section of the dock; the walls of the pump-house were therefore begun as soon as the site had been excavated.

### *Pump-Chamber.*

The whole thickness of the pump-chamber walls could not be built in one operation, as it was necessary to lay and joint the cast-iron culverts forming the connexions between the pumps, the dock and the sea in the dry; in order to give the required space for this to be done, the first portion of the walls to be built had to be made 11 feet 6 inches less in thickness than was ultimately required.

Prior to the laying of any of the under-water concrete, experiments were carried out by making concrete blocks under water by means of a tremie pipe. A number of different brands of cement were tested and the results noted. As a result of these tests it was decided to employ ordinary Portland cement of a well-known brand using a 4-to-1 mix. A further experiment was made in one of the concrete piers of the jetty, which happened at that time to be under construction; in this experiment a cavity about 4 feet square was formed in the centre of the pier by means of shuttering. The level of the sea-bed at the pier was about the same as that of the underside of the pump-house floor, and the thickness of the concrete at the bottom of the cavity was 5 feet. This reproduced on a small scale the conditions which would exist in the pump-chamber, and, as the interior of the cavity remained dry under tidal conditions after being pumped out when the concreting of the pier had reached above high-water mark, the practicability of the method of construction adopted was demonstrated. The concrete was laid by means of under-water skips, which was also the method followed in constructing the pump-house floor.

In building the first thickness of the walls, the shuttering used so that the concrete could be deposited in the wet consisted of double rows of sheet-piling suitably braced together. It was impossible, however, to construct this shuttering except in perfectly still water, as the piles were 60 feet long and only penetrated 5 feet into the chalk. A very small disturbance of the water set up a swaying motion in the piling, and it therefore became necessary to close the dock entrance again with the caisson.

Before the caisson was replaced, the oakum limpet was removed and orifices between the caisson-faces and the dock-heads were so formed that, whilst the requisite amount of tidal water was allowed to pass without causing a "head" in either direction, any disturbance of the outer water was excluded from reaching the inner area. It was found by experiment that spaces 20 feet long by 14 inches wide at each vertical bearing-face produced the necessary conditions.

The remaining section of the dredging was then carried out with the dredger locked in the enclosed area, the spoil being removed by means of a crane fixed on a stage on the side of the area, which grabbed it from barges filled from the dredger and loaded it into trucks for disposal at a tip. By this means the dredging was much expedited, the output increasing from 1,200 to 1,800 cubic yards per week by reason of the calm conditions. At the same time as the dredging was done, the driving of the piling for the shuttering of the outer thickness of the pump-chamber walls proceeded. Accurate alignment of the piles was secured by pitching their toes against a heavy plate-girder placed under water on the correct line. When the outer row of piles of the pump-house chamber had been thus completed, the concrete floor of the pumping-chamber was constructed. It was necessary to design this of such a strength as to withstand the upward thrust of a head of 50 feet of water, and steel plate-girders 4 feet 6 inches deep and spaced at 4 feet between centres, each weighing 5 tons, were used to reinforce the concrete floor. The bearings for these girders were constructed by divers who fixed lengths of rails at the correct level on small piers of concrete-bag work placed on the chalk. A detail of this work is shown in Figs. 4, Plate 1. The reinforcing girders of the pump-chamber floor were lowered into place by means of cranes and adjusted by divers on the prepared foundations. The girders themselves were coated with cement grout before being lowered, so as to ensure watertightness as far as possible between the concrete and the steel when the heavy upward water-pressure of about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ton per square foot was subsequently taken. Twenty-one of these girders were used, as well as some smaller cross-girders at the sump end of the chamber.

The concrete between the steel girders was laid by means of under-water skips, the work being carried out continuously, and when the required amount of concrete had been deposited it was screeded off to the level of the tops of the girders. The bases of the steel piles forming the inner line of shuttering of the pump-house walls were stepped into steel channels secured to the upper flanges of the girders, as shown in Figs. 4, Plate 1.

The concrete in the side and end walls of the pump-chamber was

deposited through tremie pipes. Through these pipes the concrete can be passed to the required level under water, without contact with the water. In the use of the tremie pipe a ball is made of soft material, such as shavings with a cover of canvas, which accurately fits the interior of the pipe. It is inserted in the uppermost jointed length of piping, and concrete is then poured into the pipe (the top length of which is fitted with a hopper), forcing down the ball, which expels the water from the pipe in its descent, thus allowing the concrete to follow in the dry. The feeding-in of the concrete at the top must proceed continuously, and the bottom of the pipe must always be kept immersed in the concrete, the length of piping being raised gradually and shortened at the top end by the removal of the jointed lengths as the height of the concrete increases. Several tremie pipes are used simultaneously, their number depending on the amount of concrete to be laid; there is very little, if any, loss, of cement from the mixture, and the properties of the resulting concrete are not affected. If the process of concreting is, however, suspended for any reason, laitance forms on the upper surface of the concrete, and before further laying is done this laitance should be cleared away.

From Figs. 4, Plate 1, it will be noted that special arrangements had to be made during the construction of the walls to provide for the junctions of the pump-culverts with the dock and the sea, and the scheme also provided for sluices at these junctions.

Owing to the limitations of space the outer thicknesses of the pump-chamber walls could not be made sufficiently strong to be as stable as gravity-walls, and they were, therefore, struttled with a system of girderwork between the side and end walls. As a precautionary measure, the floor was loaded with 400 tons of concrete kentledge before the chamber was pumped out.

The outer thickness of the pump-chamber walls having been constructed in the manner described, the enclosed area was pumped out, leaving the chamber  $103\frac{1}{2}$  feet long by  $39\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide in which to carry out the work of constructing the culvert system and the various connexions to the pumps. During construction the sea-water was allowed to ebb and flow through two large-diameter pipes fitted with valves which were laid in the walls.

The method of construction of the floor and walls of the pump-chamber was found to have proved so successful that practically no pumping had to be done to keep it dry, percolation of water being confined to a few mere trickles, although, as previously mentioned, at high tide there was a head of approximately 50 feet of water.

When the culvert-system had been laid, concrete for the inner thickness of the walls was deposited in the dry; hook-end rods

1 inch in diameter, which had been previously left protruding through the inner skin of sheet-piling, served as ties to bind the inner and outer thicknesses together. The culverts were thus covered with concrete, and as the stability of the walls was by now ensured the temporary steel strutting was in due course removed and the construction of the pump-house and erection of the pumps was carried out at the same time as the construction of the dock itself.

For the culvert leading from the pumps to the sea, access to the sea had to be made by blasting a tunnel through the block-work cofferdam previously built; for this work a small steel sheet-pile cofferdam was constructed on the outside of the blockwork wall by driving the piles into the chalk, leaving sufficient space between the dam and the face of the wall to enable access to be obtained in order to blast away the concrete in the dry.

To withstand the upward water-pressure to which the bottom of this small cofferdam was subjected when it was pumped out, a reinforced-concrete floor was formed under water and the steel sheet-piles of the cofferdam were loaded with old rails as kentledge to prevent them being forced up. When the tunnel had been completed the piles were burnt off at sea-bed level, leaving the mouth of the culvert open to the sea. The opening for the culvert between the pumps and the dock was also made by burning off a section of the wall piling under water, suitable arrangements having been made in the dock-wall to allow of this being done.

### *Walls and Floor of Dock.*

Similar methods to those employed for the pump-house walls were adopted in the construction of the main dock-walls, back and front shuttering being formed of two lines of Krupp sheet piling suitably braced together.

A gantry of Universal piles was driven along the site of the walls from a floating plant, and this gantry supported the back and front guide rails to which the shuttering was to be driven, the toes of the piles being pitched as before against heavy plate-girders placed under water on the proper line. The gantry also formed a staging on which to set the tremie pipes, and a second gantry of similar type was constructed from which the cranes could operate and along which the concrete could be conveyed in skips to the required position for pouring.

Between the two rows of Krupp-pile shuttering, at intervals of 40 feet, cross diaphragms were made of second-hand Larssen sheet piles which were available, and the walls were then constructed in sections in the boxes thus formed, each section being about 40 feet long by 28 feet 6 inches wide. Before the concreting of any section



was commenced, the bottom of that section was first thoroughly cleared of silt which had accumulated since the dredging took place; the concrete was then laid through the tremie pipes. The concrete mix used was 4 to 1 for the first few feet from the bottom, then 5 to 1 up to water-level, and finally 6 to 1 for the concrete placed in the dry. With the particular aggregate used, the concrete flowed under water to a slope of about 1 in 4. A temporary culvert was formed through the north and south side dock-walls so as to avoid any head being formed through tidal action whilst the concrete was being placed under water, and throughout the whole of the work consideration had to be given to the fact that upward water-pressure would be exerted if a difference of water-level were caused by any of the operations of construction. This was particularly the case with the pump-chamber.

The dock-floor, which is of mass concrete about 5 feet thick, has sufficient weight to withstand the greatest upward water-pressure to which the floor is subjected under maximum high-water conditions when the water in the dock itself is at berthing level. It was constructed in sections each about 20 feet wide and reaching from wall to wall of the dock. Construction was begun at the shore end, specially-constructed shuttering being placed across the dock at the edge of the first section to be concreted. Considerable silt had accumulated in the dock-area since the dredging had taken place; as much as possible was first removed by grabbing cranes, the final cleaning of the bottom being done by divers before any concrete was placed at any section of the floor. The concrete was then laid by means of under-water skips which were guided into place by the divers. When one section had been completed and the concrete had hardened, the shuttering was moved forward a length and the process repeated.

The filling around the dock-walls, amounting to about 45,000 cubic yards, was of Dungeness shingle, this material being very suitable for the purpose and having a satisfactory angle of repose, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 1, under water.

### *Pump-House.*

The pump-house is a steel-framed building, and, in order to allow of its being constructed as rapidly as possible and to avoid delay between the time of completion of the pumps and the time of completion of the dock, the walls were formed first of dovetailed-section steel sheeting. This gave the necessary protection from the weather so that the erection of the electrical and other portions of the pumping-plant could be carried out as early as possible.

While the pumps were being erected, brick facing walls were built

on the outside of the structure, the mortar of all the joints being keyed to the sheeting. The inner face of the steel dovetail-sheeting was subsequently plastered and the outer side of the brick wall coated with cement with a stippled finish.

The roof of the pump-house is of a patent metal type, covered with "Ruberoid," and was also designed to allow of rapid completion. Details of the pump-house construction are shown in Fig. 5, Plate 1.

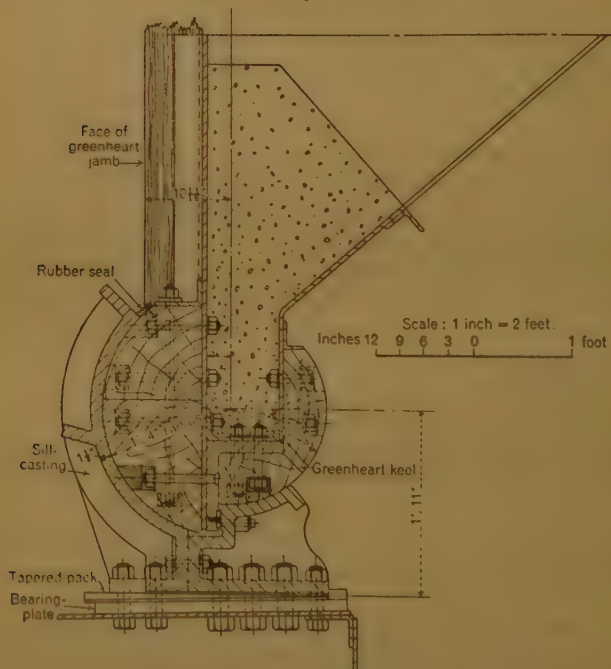
### *Dock-Sill and Jambs.*

For these portions of the work it will be realized that the ordinary method of construction in concrete with granite bearing-faces for the dock-gates was not feasible with the under-water conditions prevailing. With dock-gates of the flap-door type, the horizontal hinges of the gates on the dock-sill must be accurately set in the bearings; the requisite degree of accuracy could not be obtained unless that could be done in the dry, which the conditions rendered impossible. Neither could the vertical bearing-faces have been constructed with the required degree of accuracy in granite. It was, therefore, decided to make this section of the work in the form of a U-shaped steel shell or pontoon. On the horizontal member of the U, which would form the sill of the dock, were placed the cast-steel bearings for the hinges of the two gates, the vertical sides of the U forming the jambs of the entrance. Details of this construction are given in Figs. 6, 7, and 8, Plate 2, and it will be noted that the bottom horizontal portion was made amply strong enough to prevent the possibility of deflexion to any appreciable extent during handling.

The lower portion of this, including the whole of the sill with the cast-steel bearings for the gate-hinges thereon, was built in the dry beforehand on a staging erected a short distance from its final position, and when ready was lowered into the water by means of hydraulic jacks after a suitable amount of concrete had been placed in its hollow sill for trimming purposes. Particular care was taken in the setting of the cast-steel bearings, tapered wedges and packing-pieces (*Fig. 9*, p. 236) being used in order to secure true alignment.

Two access-shafts, each 3 feet in diameter, were constructed from the top of the sill so as to allow the placing of further concrete therein, and also the fixing of flushing piping for the purpose of cleaning the bearings. This portion of the pontoon, with a floating weight of 800 tons, was afterwards towed to its final site in the entrance of the dock, the entrance-caisson having been moved to allow of this being done. The pontoon was then lowered on to its final bearings by the process shown in Figs. 10, Plate 2. It was held in position by guide-timbers and brackets which had been previously fixed to the

inner faces of the dock-walls, the temporary caisson being replaced at the entrance to the dock so as again to ensure still-water conditions in the enclosed area. In this position the upper parts of the two jambs were added length by length and the pontoon was gradually sunk and kept trimmed in a vertical position by the deposition of suitably-placed concrete in the sill. During the building-up process two old boilers were strapped to the pontoon, one on each side, to give added stability to it, and it was finally

*Fig. 9.*

KEEL AND HINGE OF DOCK-GATE.

sunk on to two grillage-foundations which had been formed on the sea bed, its weight at that time being 1,200 tons.

It was essential that the base of the pontoon and the bearings in the dock-gates should be accurately levelled, and special methods were adopted to ensure this. After removing the accumulated silt, therefore, from that portion of the dock-bottom on which the pontoon was finally to rest, concrete was placed on two areas on which the grillages were to be placed. The grillages were constructed of steel beams bolted together, and each grillage was provided with six large screws on which to stand. Before placing the grillages

under water two rigid light levelling-towers, built up of steel sections and high enough to reach above high-water level, were fixed to them (Figs. 11, Plate 2). The height of each levelling-tower was accurately measured and recorded, and the whole lowered on to the bottom. Divers then adjusted the screws bearing on the previously-laid concrete until the top of each framework was accurately levelled, and thereafter filled in the space between and underneath the steel beams of the grillages with concrete. When this was done the levelling towers were removed.

When the pontoon had come to rest on these foundations, further concrete was placed to fill the whole of the interior of the sill with the exception of an access-passage to the bearing flushing pipes, and at the same time the vertical sides of the pontoon forming the jambs were also filled solid with concrete, these jambs being subsequently embedded in the dock-walls. When completely filled the total weight of the pontoon and concrete was 4,500 tons.

There remained a space under the base of the sill of the pontoon, around the grillages previously mentioned, which required to be made solid; this was accomplished by introducing cement grout through a system of tubes which had been fixed in the pontoon during its fabrication (Fig. 7, Plate 2). The grout was retained in the required space beneath the sill by means of small walls of concrete which were built by divers round the horizontal sides of the pontoon after it had come to rest on the grillages.

#### *Dock-Gates.*

The gates of the dock are of the "Box" type, designed on the flap-door system; when open the outer one is resting on the dock sill and the other in a recess in the floor of the dock. Two complete gates have been provided, one of which falls outwards towards the sea and the other inwards towards the inner end of the dock. The gates are hinged at the bottom, and are raised and lowered by means of winches actuated by electric motors. The mass of each gate as it is being raised and lowered is counterbalanced by weights which move up and down in vertical shafts, so that if when a gate is being lowered or raised it should be struck by a wave, it would be held in balance by its own weight resting on the sill and by the balance-weights connected to the top. It was considered that leaf-gates or rolling gates would not be suitable under the conditions which prevail at Dover when being operated in rough weather, as during the process of being opened or closed there would be a period when they would be vulnerable to shock from heavy seas to a much greater extent than would be the case with the type adopted.

In any "Box" gates built previously to the work at Dover



pressure could only be taken on the outer face of the gates, so that the water-level had always to be higher on the outside of the dock. At Dover the gates were so designed that if one gate is damaged the other gate will be able to maintain the ferry-service ; it was therefore necessary that each of the gates should be able to withstand a head of water on either its inside or outside face. To provide for this, strut-gates were introduced which swing out from the dock-walls and strut the back faces of the gates as necessary under the required conditions.

The pull on the hoisting ropes of the gate-winches in calm weather under the worst tide-conditions is 45 tons per rope, each gate having two ropes. To cope with stormy conditions it was decided, as a result of experiments, to introduce a friction-clutch or brake in the main winch which would prevent the hoisting ropes from being loaded beyond 60 tons per rope. If the gate when being lifted under wave-action swings to the extent of inducing a loading of over 60 tons per rope, the friction-clutch allows a certain amount of rope to be paid out until the load falls below 60 tons, and the winches were designed to deal with this pull. The main motors will raise each gate in about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  minutes, but in case of any unforeseen failure of these motors smaller stand-by motors have been provided.

The dock-gates were erected on an area of land which was available on the new Clarence quay in the rear of the dock and was conveniently situated for launching them into the water when completed, and this work went on simultaneously with the construction of the pontoon. They were riveted, caulked, the wedging gear fitted, and the green-heart timber keels fixed and dressed, and were then launched over ways which carried them at high water into the outer portion of the Dover Inner Harbour. Details of the gates are shown in Figs. 6, 7, and 8, Plate 2, and in *Fig. 9* (p. 236) ; they weigh 300 tons each, and were made of steel with a copper-content of 0.25 to 0.35 per cent.

After launching they were carefully examined for any deformation which might have taken place during the launching process, but no defect whatever could be found. They were subsequently towed into the ferry-dock, and, before being finally fitted into their bearings, were placed in temporary upright positions on either side of the pontoon, as shown in Figs. 12, Plate 2, so as to form a cofferdam around the dock-sill to enable final checking and adjustment of the bearings to be made. This cofferdam also allowed access to the interior of the sill for completing the laying of concrete therein and fixing the gate-bearing flushing pipes.

In case it should become necessary at any time, arrangements have been made for pumping out the space between the two " Box " gates, and when the gates were in the temporary position referred to

above the final pipe-connexions from the dock-sill to the drainer-pump were made.

During this stage of the work the temporary caisson, which had been removed from the dock-entrance to permit the gates to enter the dock, was replaced, as it was of much advantage to secure still-water conditions in the dock-area.

When the space between the two dock-gates was pumped out it was found that the gate-bearing castings needed no adjustment, and it was also established that the base of the pontoon was level to within  $\frac{1}{10}$  inch.

While this work was going on, the bearings for the strut-gates were fixed. It had been possible to provide for the inner pair by constructing their quoins as an integral part of the pontoon; for the outer pair, however, recesses in the blockwork on both sides of the dock-entrance had been made, into which the quoins could only be built in the dry. Two steel limpet cofferdams were, therefore, constructed and placed in position in front of these recesses and the water pumped out. The quoins were then set and concreted in, the limpets removed, and the strut-gates themselves afterwards adjusted accurately in position.

The last stage of the work on the erection of the dock-gates, namely, removing them from the positions in which they formed the temporary cofferdam and fitting them into their sockets on the sill, also took place with the temporary caisson still in position; as soon as this was accomplished the caisson was taken away.

#### *Machinery-Pit Shafts.*

Various deep shafts were constructed in the walls on both sides of the dock-entrance for housing the pulling-off weights and the balance-weights of the wave-action balancing gear for the gates, the gate-space drainer-pump and various float-level indicators. The general method of construction adopted was to suspend cylinders of cast-iron segments from staging in the water, these cylinders forming the shuttering for the shafts. Concrete laid through tremie pipes was then deposited around them, the segments being thereby incorporated in the walls and forming the lining of the shafts.

#### *Link-Span Bridge.*

Calculations and actual experiments with rolling stock showed that it was necessary so to design the lifting bridge as to allow for a maximum lateral slant of 2 feet 6 inches and a change in gradient of 1 in 35 for bogie coaches and 1 in 24 for wagons. This is due to the list of the vessel to one side or the other as vehicular traffic of varying weights is shunted to and from the vessel. The longitudinal

level of the ship also varies under these conditions, and it was necessary for the required degree of flexibility to be incorporated into the bridge. The structure was, therefore, designed with articulated joints at all its connexions, the main girders at the shore end working on horizontal pin bearings. Its carrying capacity is of the standard required to deal with the heaviest traffic on the railway. Details of construction are given in Figs. 13 and 14, Plate 3.

The free end of the bridge is suspended from links by which the span can be raised or lowered to the required angle. When in use the free end is lifted up to the necessary height to allow of the stern of the ferry-vessel being brought home to the curved inner end of the dock. This having been done, the starboard side of the vessel is held securely to the southern wall of the dock and the lifting bridge is lowered on to the stern of the vessel, a pin on the latter entering a socket formed in the end cross-girder of the bridge. Bearings are provided on the deck of the ferry on which the free end of the bridge rests, and a bolt actuated by a motor is inserted in a slot in the upper end of the pin which secures the bridge to the vessel. This bolt is interlocked electrically with the signalling apparatus for the two lines which lead on to the ferry-vessel.

The bridge is operated from a machinery-room situated immediately above it, and its weight is counterbalanced by kentledge which moves up and down two towers. It is raised and lowered by two independent sets of electrically-driven machinery, and in the event of failure of current the span and locking bolt can be operated by hand.

The motors have sufficient power to raise or lower the span through its working range in about 2 minutes. When the span is resting on the vessel it is freed from the machinery by clutches to allow it to follow the motion of the ship. The electrically-controlled equipment is duplicated, and an illuminated indicator shows the settings of the span, the locking bolt and the brakes and clutches in the machinery-house. A warning gong rings when the span is nearing the end of its permissible vertical travel, or when the amount of lateral slant on it is approaching the maximum permissible. The reeving of the hoisting ropes is as shown in *Fig. 15*.

### *Approach-Jetty.*

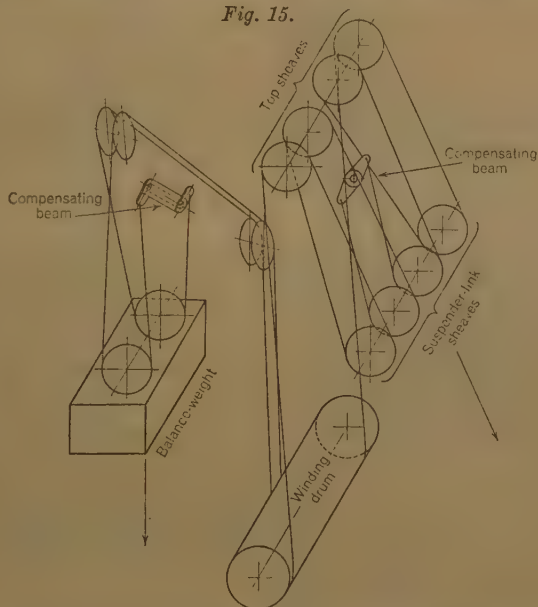
The main portion of the jetty is carried on rectangular concrete piers each 31 feet wide by 11 feet thick, spaced 11 feet apart. The inner end is of solid concrete for a length of 66 feet, whilst the pier at the seaward end has a shaped nose formed on its outer face.

The piers are connected together by two horizontal rows of ferro-concrete beams, the reinforcement of which is suitably connected

with the piers. The four piers at the shore end, where the foundations are at a lower level, were heavily braced together by diagonal rail ties encased in heavy sections of concrete to give resistance to the impact of ships. The jetty has a concrete deck 1 foot 6 inches thick, and is reinforced with steel beams which carry the rail-track thereon. Particulars are given in *Figs. 16*, p. 242.

In the construction of the pier a staging of piles diagonally braced together was driven by means of a floating plant. From this staging rectangular boxes of the required dimensions formed of Larssen steel piles were driven 5 or 6 feet into the chalk sea-bed. The boxes

*Fig. 15.*

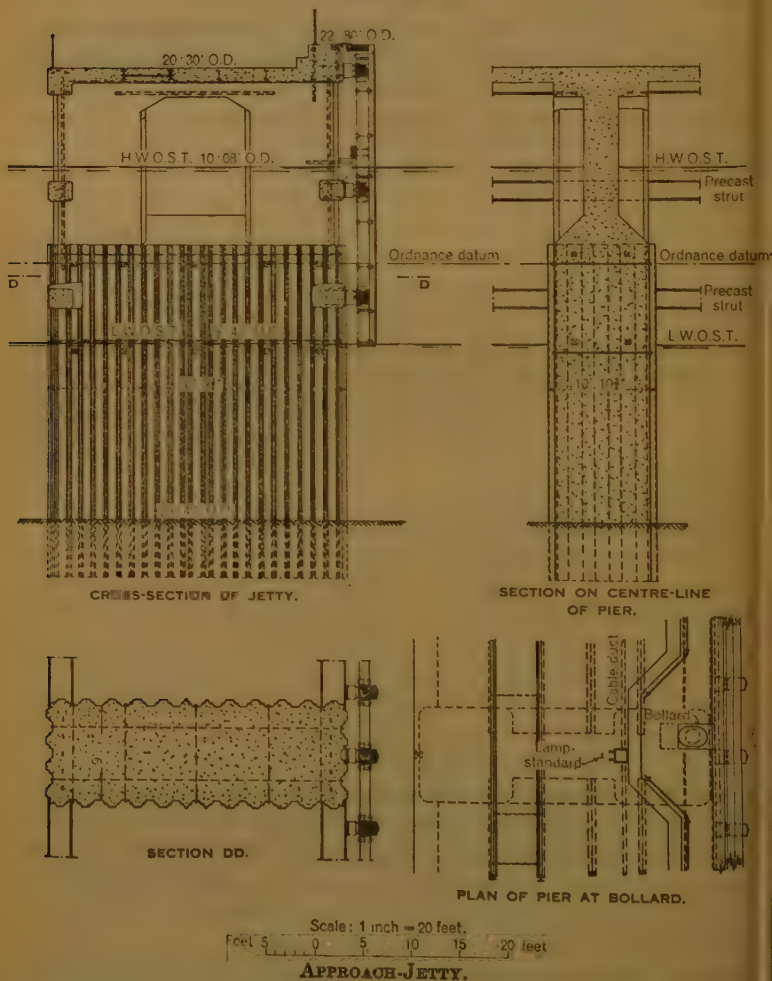


formed the shuttering for the mass concrete of the piers, and the sides of the boxes were connected together by tie-bolts, whilst heavy timbers connected to the staging and to the boxes gave support during the process of depositing the concrete. Rough weather on occasions made the holding of the sheet-pile boxes difficult, but it was generally possible to keep the work secure.

Once a pier was commenced, the concrete was deposited continuously from under-water skips to a point above low-water level, the upper portions of the piers to which the horizontal beams were connected being completed tidally in the dry. The concrete deck was constructed in sections which were securely dowelled to the piers by means of vertical rail reinforcement.

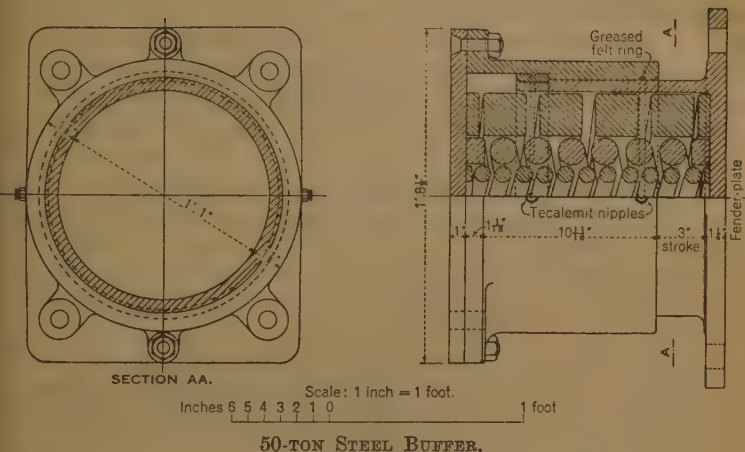


The berthing face of the jetty is fitted with fenders and rubbing-pieces, as shown in *Figs. 16*, and spring buffers working in cast-steel boxes are interposed between the backs of the fenders and the concrete work of the pier. Details of these spring buffers are shown in

*Figs. 16.*

*Figs. 17.* The spring buffers allow a compression of 3 inches and the force necessary to produce this compression is 50 tons per buffer. Three springs of different diameters are concentrically arranged in the boxes and the space between them is filled with grease as a preventative of corrosion.

Figs. 17.



### Pumps.

The purpose of the pumping machinery is to adjust the level of water in the dock so that the train-ferry can be raised or lowered, as may be required, to the correct level to enable the link-span to be connected to the deck.

The functions required of the main pumping machinery, with its valves, are, therefore, as follows:—

- (1) To pump water into the dock so as to raise the level should the vessel enter the dock at low tide.
- (2) To pump water out of the dock to lower the level should the vessel enter the dock at high tide.
- (3) To allow water to gravitate into the sea from the dock so as to lower the level when a vessel is due to leave the dock at low tide.
- (4) To allow water to gravitate into the dock so as to raise the level should a vessel be due to leave the dock at high tide.

The arrangement employed is shown diagrammatically in *Fig. 18*, p. 244. From this it will be seen that there are two main culverts, one connected to the sea and one to the dock. These are 8 feet 6 inches in diameter, tapering down to 40 inches at the valves. There are twelve 40-inch electrically-operated sluice-valves, and three main centrifugal pumps, with 40-inch suction and discharge branches. In addition there are three 40-inch tilting-disk type reflux-valves connected to the discharge of each pump.

By this arrangement the pumps can be connected to perform either function (1) or function (2) mentioned above. For instance,

if it is desired to raise the level of water in the dock with pump "A," valves nos. 2 and 3 would be opened, valves nos. 1 and 4 remaining closed. The water may then pass from the sea culvert through valve no. 3, through the pump, the tilting-disk non-return valve and no. 2 valve into the dock culvert and thence into the dock.

In the same way pumps "B" and "C" may be connected with their appropriate valves.

The main pumps are of the centrifugal double-inlet type, and have 40-inch suction and discharge branches, the water entering

*Fig. 18.*



ARRANGEMENT OF DE-WATERING AND IMPOUNDING PUMPING PLANT.

both above and below the impeller. The plant is capable of raising the level in the dock by 16.4 feet in 30 minutes. This involves pumping 463,000 cubic feet with the three main pumps. Alternatively, the pumps can lower the level in the dock by 8 feet in 15½ minutes. The pumps have a maximum efficiency of 84 per cent., run at a speed of 250 revolutions per minute, and are driven by 230-b.h.p. motors.

Operation of the main pumps and valves must be rapid and accurate, and for this reason a supervisory control-system has been provided which enables a single operator to set the opening of the

valves in their correct order for any operation, without leaving the control-platform, and gives a visual indication on an indicator-diagram that the correct setting has been obtained.

Instruments are fitted on the control-desk which electrically indicate the sea-level, the level in the dock, and the rate of rise or fall of the water in the dock, whilst a special feature of the supervisory control is that, should any unit in the system break down, that unit can be isolated immediately and the remaining units continue to function.

An electric telegraph system is provided, similar to a marine engine-room telegraph, so that signals can be made to the pump-room operator from both ends of the dock.

#### *Motor-Car Ramp and Drawbridge.*

Facilities for garaging motor-cars have been provided on the upper deck of the train-ferry vessels, and this deck is approached by an incline on the north side of the dock. A short electrically-operated lifting bridge connects the top of this incline with the ferry.

#### *New Clarence Quay.*

In order to provide the necessary siding-accommodation for dealing with traffic to and from the train-ferry, it was necessary to reclaim 1.8 acre of land near the entrance to the Dover Inner Harbour. This reclamation is shown on the plan (Fig. 1, Plate 1). A cross-section of the new quay wall is shown in Fig. 2, Plate 1, the whole being constructed of pre-cast concrete blocks. There was no particular difficulty in regard to this work, as the chalk foundation was accessible at low water of spring tides. The new wall is 643 feet long, and is backed by a prism of hardcore for its entire length.

The filling between the old and the new Clarence quay walls is of Dungeness shingle, which was found very suitable for the purpose.

#### CONCLUSION.

The works were designed by and carried out under the direction of the Author. The Contractors were Messrs. Edmund Nuttall, Sons & Co. and John Mowlem & Co. (Joint) Ltd. From June 1935 Messrs. John Mowlem & Co. carried out the work for the joint firm, which was represented at the site by Mr. H. A. Henry, M. Inst. C.E.

Messrs. Coode, Wilson, Mitchell & Vaughan-Lee, MM. Inst. C.E., were consulted by the Author from time to time, and their assistance in connexion with the problems which arose was much appreciated.

Mr. Conrad Gribble, M. Inst. C.E., as Assistant Engineer for New Works and Bridges, Mr. M. G. J. McHaffie, M. Inst. C.E. who assisted



in connexion with the supervision of the work over a difficult period, and Mr. Frank Whyte, M. Inst. C.E., as Resident Engineer, should be specially mentioned.

Messrs. Sir William Arrol & Co. were the sub-contractors for the supply of the dock-gates, the link-span bridge, the special pontoon and other items of structural work, and were represented at the site by Mr. J. W. Sommerville, Assoc. M. Inst. C.E.

To those other gentlemen who were engaged on the work and who have assisted in the preparation of this Paper the Author tenders his thanks.

The Paper is accompanied by twenty-three sheets of tracings, from which Plates 1, 2, and 3, and the Figures in the text have been prepared, and by twelve photographs.

### Discussion.

The AUTHOR showed a number of lantern-slides and a cinematograph film illustrating the works described in the Paper. In connexion with Sir John Fowler's scheme for a Channel ferry, referred to on p. 223, it had been proposed to make a still-water harbour of about 95 acres; without wishing to criticize the proposals of so industrious an engineer, he thought it probable that insuperable difficulties would have arisen in producing still-water conditions over such a large area at the Dover end of the ferry route, owing to the swell which was produced by the narrowing of the English Channel in the neighbourhood. It would also have been difficult to instruct the proposed lift-platform, 220 feet in length, to carry half a train, so that it could tilt both longitudinally and laterally to the type and list of the vessel as the latter was being loaded and unloaded. The vessel was to have had two sets of paddle-wheels, probably to ensure as much comfort as possible in heavy weather.

He also referred to the trial heading of the Channel tunnel driven between 1882 and 1883. That heading commenced at No. 2 shaft, situated on the Folkestone side of Shakespeare tunnel, and extended in an almost due easterly direction for a length of about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mile towards Dover. At No. 3 shaft, which was situated at the eastern end of Shakespeare tunnel, the base of the lower grey chalk was proved to be at — 105 O.D., and the thickness of the stratum was about 230 feet. Allowing for the dip to the east which existed in the stratum, the site of the train-ferry dock was well within that formation.

At Dover there was always the possibility that rough seas would be experienced with very little warning. It was very difficult to prognosticate the weather conditions at Dover for more than a few hours ahead, and all the works had had to be designed with that menace in mind. The temporary caisson used at the dock-gates to close the dock-area was a large and unwieldy structure, but it could have been impossible to have carried out the work without it. The caisson had been removed and replaced about half-a-dozen times for various purposes during the course of the work, and had proved to be of very great value. It would have taken very little movement of the water to upset the steel sheet-piling used in the construction of the pump-chamber, but the water in the enclosed area had never more than the slightest ripple upon it, due to the heavy throttling down of the tidal water between the temporary caisson and the dock-heads. The dimensions of the openings were, as stated on p. 231,

The Author. 20 feet long by 14 inches wide at each vertical bearing face, and was found that if they were made a little bigger, quite a mater swell was produced even inside the dock-area. The result of the wave-breaker, made with large concrete blocks, which had been built at the landward end of the north face of the Admiralty pier (Fig. 1, Plate 1) had been, incidentally, to improve the berthing in the Admiralty quay; it had damped down the swell which used to exist, and it was now slightly easier for the masters of vessels to berth alongside that quay. Both sides of the train-ferry dock jetty could be used for berthing purposes if the necessity arose in the future, the sea-bottom having been dredged to the necessary depth. For more than 2 years the bulk of the work had been below sea-level, and a considerable number of divers had been employed. Their work had been consistently good and in no instance had fault to be found with them. He pointed out that it should be possible to operate the dock gates in any weather which would allow ships to come alongside the jetty, and they had been operated on occasions when there had been a swell of from 5 to 6 feet. An aerial photograph of the finished works was shown in *Fig. 19*, with one of the ferries in the dock.

The President. The PRESIDENT, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Author, said that all would appreciate the dogged determination with which the Author and his engineers had continued to work in spite of many adverse circumstances. The Paper had the merit of calling attention to the difficulties encountered and not merely describing the results.

Mr. Wilson. Mr. M. F.-G. WILSON remarked that one of the most interesting features of the work described was the unexpected difficulty which arose because of the large flow of water. He wondered where the water came from, because nothing had been said about boring, nor whether the chalk at the bottom of the dock was thoroughly solid. There had been very large falls of cliff all along the coast at various times, and there might have been loose chalk on the dock site. There was also an old river-bed somewhere in the vicinity, although he had never seen an accurate plan of it. Was it fresh salt water which had been encountered? The site of the work was very exposed, and there was salt water all around it. An important section of the Admiralty harbour, Dover, for which his firm had been Chief Engineers and he himself had been Superintending Engineer, was the forming of a large reclamation area at the eastern end of the harbour. The retaining wall for that reclamation was founded on the foreshore just above low-water level. The foreshore consisted of hard chalk with many fissures, through which a considerable quantity of water passed when the excavations were being carried out. In one case an exceptionally large spring of fresh water had been encountered, which was sufficient to supply the whole of the fresh water required for the greater portion of the work.

*Fig. 19.*



AERIAL VIEW OF TRAIN-FERRY AND DOCK.





It must have been very discouraging to the Author to have had Mr. Wilson. to carry out in the wet work which he had expected to carry out in the dry. The placing of mass-concrete under water was always difficult, as the concrete could not be moved under water on account of the risk of washing out the cement, and much care had to be exercised in getting the concrete into place.

He was interested in the use of tremie pipes. The use of such pipes was quite satisfactory, but great care was required to see that the pipes were always full and that the ends of the pipes were always in the concrete; if the pipes were not carefully used they simply became shoots and the effect would be to allow the cement to be washed out and to separate the coarse aggregate from the fine and so injure the concrete. Very careful supervision was therefore required the whole time in order to see that every shovelful of concrete got into the right place. Concrete placed under water in the way described needed to be brought up continuously from the bottom to the top. A great deal of experience in that direction had been obtained in Singapore when sinking cylinders under water which were filled with concrete. The necessity for bringing the concrete up in one operation had not been fully appreciated and the work had been interrupted, with the result that a great deal of laitance was found in the cylinders, sometimes amounting to from 8 to 10 feet, which had to be cleared out before work could be started again. From the way in which the work described in the Paper was carried out, however, he assumed that that trouble had to a large extent been avoided. Another very interesting feature in connexion with the Dover works, which was also rendered necessary by the work having to be done under water, was the forming of the sill and the side-jambs in the caisson and sinking it into place. That was bound to save a great deal of trouble and seemed to have been very satisfactory. All through the work a great many special operations and devices had been necessary due to so many important sections of the work having to be carried out under water.

Sir HERBERT WALKER remarked that he was not competent to deal with the Paper from its technical aspect, but he did wish to say, as a retired railway officer, that the thanks of the Southern Railway were due to the Author for the way in which the work had been carried out. Sir Herbert had worked with the Author throughout that time, and he knew something of the difficulties which he had encountered; in many cases those difficulties could not have been foreseen, but the Author had adopted ingenious methods for overcoming them and had brought the scheme to a successful conclusion. The ferry was not a new departure in railway transportation, but the Southern Railway had not seen its way to carrying out the ferry scheme from a commercial point of view so long as there was any possi-

Sir Herbert  
Walker.

Sir Herbert  
Walker.

bility of the Channel tunnel being made. As soon as it was definitely decided that there would be no Channel tunnel, the French Government, acting through the General Managers of the French railway, had approached the Southern Railway and had asked whether they would go on with the ferry, which they had agreed to do.

The ferry replaced a service of steam vessels which the Southern Railway had taken over 5 or 6 years ago, and which had been worked at a very heavy loss. The ferry-service had only been in use for 12 months, but it had already turned that loss into a profit, and the difference between the loss and the profit which was now being made was quite sufficient to return a reasonable rate of interest on the capital which had been expended.

Sir Henry  
Japp.

Sir HENRY JAPP observed that the Dover train-ferry dock had been a very difficult piece of work to construct. After the concrete-blowing-walls had been completed and the steel caisson placed to close the entrance, the pumps had been started and had discharged over 1,000,000 gallons per hour, so that those concerned had been very surprised to find that at high tide the water gained on the pumps. There was another large pump with a capacity of about 235,000 gallons per hour which could have been brought into use, but as material was evidently coming out from under the dock-walls from the fissures in the chalk, the Author had very wisely decided to stop the pumping.

The Geological Survey of Great Britain had been consulted, and had advised that the fissures were probably due to water running down the chalk-surface, presumably feeding the river which at one time had flowed on the site of the English Channel and had joined the Rhine in the bed of the North Sea. He himself could not reconcile the condition of the chalk with that theory. He thought that what Mr. Wilson had suggested was more probable, the cliffs having fallen down on the foreshore and great masses of chalk having been tumbled about by the waves and pounded for years, then having been planed smooth by the millions of tons of shingle which was ever moving along the south coast of England, and the interstices having been filled with mud and powdered chalk.

When the pumping had been discontinued, the Author had been faced with the problem of redesigning the dock so that it could be constructed in the wet instead of in the dry. The entrance had been open at that time, and the dredger was brought in to carry out the excavation. The work had been pushed on at the site of the pump-house, because it was estimated that the placing of the pumps and culverts would take longer than any other part of the work, and the Author had then saved a great deal of time by enclosing the dredger within the dock and unloading the dredged material into Southern Railway trucks, so that while the pump-house was being constructed the main excavation for the dock was also proceeding.

the fact that the pump-house floor, when it was de-watered, proved to be almost entirely watertight, showed how carefully the divers had placed the concrete between the reinforcing-girders of the floor, which were about 4 feet 6 inches deep and at 4-foot centres. The dock-walls themselves had been built by the use of tremie pipes, the concrete having been conveyed to a hopper from which the pipes entered the water; as Mr. Wilson had said, the ends of the pipes were always kept covered in the flowing concrete, and the work was carried on continuously. The laitance was negligible. It had been hoped to deliver the concrete to the tremie pipes by concrete-pumps, but unfortunately the aggregate which was used consisted of crushed angle with many sharp slivers of broken flints among it, which were too much for the valves of the concrete-pumps; in fact, the purchase of new valves for the pumps cost nearly as much as the mixing and placing of the concrete. The work of driving the cofferdams commenced towards the end of 1933, and the dock was opened officially for public service on October 12th, 1936, only three years afterwards. Considering all the difficulties which had had to be met, that was a very short time, and the work had only been carried out in so short a time by the close co-operation of everyone concerned, under the direction of the Author.

Mr. R. F. HINDMARSH remarked that he was particularly interested in the work described, because he came from Tyneside, where the ferry-boats had been built to the design and under the supervision of Mr. Westcott Abell, K.B.E., M. Inst. C.E., who himself had been connected for many years with Tyneside. Further, the "Box" dock-gates were the invention of Mr. Edward Box, M. Inst. C.E., an engineer closely connected with Tyneside for many years. Mr. Hindmarsh. The blocks for the enclosing wall, shown in Fig. 2, Plate 1, had "sausage" joints, and it would be of interest if the Author would say whether he had considered using rectangular blocks perhaps with half-joggles, caulking the face-joints, and grouting the internal joints solid with neat cement. There was always a difficulty in setting interlocking blocks such as were used in the present instance to bed properly. The Author seemed to be satisfied with the "sausage" joints, but there was bound to have been great difficulty in making them water-tight, and in the case of any considerable movement on the face of the wall and any slackness in the "sausage" joints, they would become loose very quickly owing to the movement of the sea. Perhaps a single step in each course would have been sufficient to have prevented any sliding of the blocks upon each other. The Author stated on p. 228 that the dredged bottom under the dock-work walls had been excavated 1 foot lower than was necessary, and had then been built up again by concrete deposited under water and screeded off to the correct level by divers. Mr. Hindmarsh

Sir Henry  
Japp.

Mr.  
Hindmarsh.



Mr.  
Hindmarsh.

knew of at least three cases where a foundation of that sort had the course of years given trouble, and he would like to ask the Author whether the chalk could not have been dressed off to the correct level to receive the foundation-blocks by the use of diving bells, as had been done in the case of the Tyne and Dover breakwaters. Possibly if that had been done an even more satisfactory foundation would have been obtained. The output of 1,200 cu. yards dredged per week, working day and night, was, as the Author said, very slow progress. Would it not have been possible to have broken up the chalk in some way by explosive or rock-breaker preparatory to dredging?

The steel used for the dock-gates, containing from 0.25 to 0.5 per cent. of copper, was one which Mr. Hindmarsh had used in considerable quantities, and whilst he believed that it did retard corrosion, he wished that an even more satisfactory material could have been produced at a price which would enable large quantities to be used in works of the kind described.

Had the steel buffers, filled with grease, on the face of the berth jetty proved satisfactory? What happened to the grease when the buffers were squeezed up? There did not seem to be any outlet for it.

Mr. Maunsell,

Mr. G. A. MAUNSELL remarked that the outstanding feature of interest, so far as he was concerned, was in connexion with the cofferdams which the Author had described. The original intention had apparently been that the whole area should be surrounded by a steel-pile dam, but that intention had been abandoned and concrete blocks had been employed instead. It was general experience that no two cofferdams were alike; each one required separate treatment. The peculiarity in the case of the dam described in the Paper seemed to have been the chalk sub-soil. That was a state of affairs which might have to be dealt with again in similar circumstances somewhere else, and it would be very instructive if the Author could supplement the information already given by some details as to the behaviour of the chalk during the abortive attempt at pumping. Dealing with the first attempt which was made to form the steel-pile dam, the Author said that the chalk was very hard and that the piles could not be made to penetrate very far, whilst there was also the difficulty of the piles being loosened owing to the action of the waves. Farther on the Author said, however, that some piles which had been put down for the purpose of shuttering the concrete had been actually driven about 5 feet into the chalk. It seemed a little difficult to understand how the chalk could have been so hard in one place and yet fairly soft in another, and information on this variation would be of considerable interest.

With regard to wave-sway and its effect on piles, Mr. Maunsell

ently had experience of very similar circumstances in connexion Mr. Maunsell, with some of the foundations of the Storstrom bridge. In that case, a steel-pile cofferdam had had to be put down in an open waterway about a mile wide which rapidly opened out on both sides, where there was quite a nasty short sea. The piles were put down in 30 feet of water. There was no tide in the Baltic, and the first thing which was done was to put up timber-pile staging; above water a heavy timber waling was then constructed, and 20 feet below water a very heavy steel waling, elliptical in shape, was hung from the timber piles. The steel piles which were put in were, be believed, of the same type as those that the Author had used, and of the same section. They were rolled by Messrs. Dorman, Long and Co. Those piles were very satisfactory in every way, and in spite of the short sea no serious difficulty from sway was experienced. The cofferdams were very expeditiously driven and were afterwards pumped out. Sir Henry Japp had thrown some light upon the block-dam which was afterwards decided upon, and it would be very interesting to know the actual reason why pumping had been stopped, because the Paper stated that a difference of water-level of 20 feet between the inside and the outside of the cofferdam had been obtained. The actual experience was that when pumping had once been started and a very considerable difference in level between the outside and the inside had been obtained, leaks tended to dry up, and by putting in a greater number of pumps the area could be dried out. In fact, the fissures through which the water was coming could be regarded as pipes, a very simple calculation would show that in the present case only 50 per cent. greater pumping capacity would have been required to dry out the whole 50 feet, as compared with what was required for the 20 feet. There was probably some other reason, therefore, which had prevented the pumping from being carried on, and it would be very interesting to know what it was. The Author had been interested to hear that the concrete which was put down by tremie pipes had been so satisfactory, because some concrete of that description had been placed in the foundations of the Storstrom bridge. In order to ascertain whether or not the concrete was good, a cylindrical shutter 3 feet in diameter and about 8 feet in length had been fixed in a slanting direction in one of the blocks which was going to be concreted under water. The concrete had then been filled in under water nearly up to the top of that shutter by means of the tremie pipe, and when the concrete had set the space was pumped out, showing that there was about 3 or 4 inches of clearance on the top. The shutter had then been broken out and it had been possible to inspect the whole area of the cylinder where the concrete had flowed around it. It was rather a good test of whether concrete under water would actually flow around an obstacle and

Mr. Maunsell. make a good job, and it was found that the interior of that cylindrical hole, 3 feet in diameter, was absolutely perfect; there was not a spot into which a finger could have been inserted.

Mr. JAMES WILLIAMSON observed that he would confine his remarks to one point only. A few years ago he had assisted in some survey in connexion with the train-ferry across the Yangtse-Kia between Nanking and Pookow. The conditions there were very different from those at Dover. The rise in the river in summer time, when the snows had melted and the flood-water was coming down, was very great, and that meant that on each side of the river there had to be four long lattice-girder spans, all capable of being inclined simultaneously to get down or up on to the ferry-boat. The range of river-level provided for was 25 feet. From the end of the last span there was an apron such as was shown in Figs. 1 and 2, Plate 3, and it was to that apron that he wished to refer.

In the case of the ferry-steamer at Dover, there were two tracks going on to the ferry, and they spread into four on the vessel. In the case of the Chinese ferry, however, there was one track coming down three of the approach-spans, but on the last span it branched out into three, and the apron and the boat had three tracks. It was not quite so long as the apron at Dover, but the difference was not great. It follows. In the case of the Dover apron, which was similar to that for the Government ferry-boats run during the War, the construction was hinged and the cross-girders were hinged to the side-girders as described in the Paper. The contractors for the Chinese ferry-boat, however, had considered that it might be possible to make a satisfactory apron without hinges at all; that was to say, with the cross-girders and the stringers riveted. Calculations had been put forward for that arrangement which seemed to show that it should be flexible enough to accommodate itself to the vertical movement, lateral swinging, and fore-and-aft slope of the vessel during all conditions of loading and unloading. The calculations had been complicated, and perhaps some of those who had had to deal with the matter had not been too confident that they were right, so that it was arranged that the work should be put together in the shops and tested there. The result of the tests had been to show that that apron—wider than the Dover apron, with three tracks instead of two—would be absolutely satisfactory with any of the hinges at connexions between the cross-members and the main girders or between the stringers and the cross-girders. The apron was, of course, hinged at the shore end for lifting and lowering the boats in manœuvring. It had proved entirely satisfactory in service.

Mr. Wentworth-Sheilds.

Mr. F. E. WENTWORTH-SHEILDS noticed that the Author had mentioned both underwater skips and tremie pipes for depositing concrete under water, and that it did not appear that he had any special preference for one method as compared with the other. Mr. W.

North-Sheilds's experience had been that depositing with skips did not give satisfactory work, because of the great amount of laitance produced, as the Author had pointed out. If he had understood the matter rightly, hardly any laitance had been produced with the tremie pipes, provided that they were properly used. He understood that the pump-house floor, however, which undoubtedly was very successful, had been deposited with skips, and he would like to know how the Author had managed to get rid of the laitance and to make such a fine job.

Could the Author prove that there was any real advantage in covering the steelwork with grout before depositing the concrete? It was difficult to imagine that it could be advantageous, but no doubt the Author had some good reason for adopting that method. The Author had mentioned that several brands of cement had been tested, and it would be of interest to know what qualities the successful brand possessed. Mr. Wentworth-Sheilds had found that for underwater work a coarsely-ground cement was far better than a finely-ground cement, because it did not produce so much laitance, which was only natural; but he would like to know whether that was the only feature of the brand which the Author had adopted or whether it had some other feature which was of advantage.

Finally, he would be interested to know why Krupp piling had been adopted in preference to, say, Larssen piling. So far as transverse strength was concerned, he believed that the Larssen piling was rather better than the Krupp pattern.

\*\*\* Mr. A. H. CASE observed that, without wishing to reiterate Mr. Case's details of a work done long ago, it might be well to mention, in support of what had been said about pumping as an alternative to placing concrete under water, the similar difficulties that had been countered when putting in the foundations of Beachy Head Lighthouse, which had been excavated in chalk in the same formation as that at Dover in the sea-bed off Beachy Head. The foundations were enclosed with a half-tide circular concrete dam, with a brick-lined vertical inner face, and the idea had been to start pumping as soon as the ebb-tide was below the level of the top of the dam, and thus to be able to carry on the work of excavation and subsequent piling during the period of half ebb-tide to half flood-tide. In practice, however, it was found during excavations that the chalk had so many fissures—some of considerable size—in it that the pumps were hopelessly inadequate to cope with the inflow of water during ebb-tide, and no real commencement of actual work could be made until the tide had ebbed far below the top of the dam. It was found

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\*\*\* This and the succeeding contribution were submitted in writing.—ACTING SEC. INST. C.E.



Mr. Case.

that during the flood-tide the pumps could cope with the inflow and so could permit work to be continued until the rising tide had reached the top of the dam; that was probably accounted for by the pumps having to some extent drained the surrounding chalk during each period of work, whereas in starting pumping on the ebb-tide the chalk and fissures were saturated. A great deal of time and expense was lost owing to that difficulty, and considerable delay was experienced in the execution of the work, whilst it was too late, even if it had been permitted, to substitute mass-concrete deposited under water for granite masonry; the latter, being of carefully-dressed granite with both horizontal and vertical dovetail joints, had to be built the dry.

He gave that information with the object of endorsing what the Author and Sir Henry Japp had stated with respect to the fissure character of the chalk. At Beachy Head, as at Dover, a boring had been sunk in the first instance to investigate the character of the chalk, but the boring had showed it to be solid and had given little information as to fissures.

Dr. Brysson  
Cunningham.

Dr. BRYSSON CUNNINGHAM observed that the general excellence of the Paper made him regret that there was such an important omission as all reference to the cost of the undertaking. In view of the difficulties encountered, the cost was bound to have been considerable, although no doubt it could be urged that the circumstances were exceptional to such a degree that any particulars of cost would be of little service for comparison with construction work elsewhere. At the same time, it was always useful to have records of actual cost, and the value of the Paper would be much enhanced if the Author would give some details of the expenditure incurred, particularly in regard to the under-water work, which had been carried out by two distinct methods, namely by the use of bottom-opening skips and of tremie pipes.

With regard to the deposition of fluid concrete under water most engineers would be disposed to agree in the desirability of avoiding it wherever possible. The method at Dover seemed to have been remarkably successful and the excellent results obtained should do much to reassure those who mistrusted the process. He wondered how the levelling of the surface of the concrete floor screeds had been carried out without weakening the cement-content of the fluid mass, and whether or not the disturbance of the deposited material had appreciably clouded the view of the divers.

He would like to ask whether much mud had been found deposited on the floor of the entrance where the gates rested in the open position, and by what means it was ascertained that the gates were lying below sill-level, so as not to run any risk of fouling the keel of a vessel entering the dock.

In view of the opinions expressed by Sir Robert Hadfield and Mr. Dr. Brysson in their Paper on the "Corrosion of Iron and Steel,"<sup>1</sup> the Cunningham. value of a copper-content of the order of from 0.25 to 0.35 per cent. of the steel for the dock-gates was problematical. Dr. Cunningham had employed similar copper-steel for sheet-piles driven in the Thames estuary, but he had also taken the precaution of coating them with tar, as until further research had been made, the evidence of the efficacy of copper as a rust-resisting ingredient for steel in marine situations was not conclusive.

The AUTHOR, in reply, stated with regard to the question of borings The Author. that a preliminary boring had been made on the landward end of the dock. The whole area of the dock at the beginning of the work had also been pricked over with steel sheet-piles which had been driven to refusal to ascertain what variation, if any, there was in the quality of the chalk. Generally speaking, those prickings had shown very consistent penetration, and hard driving had been necessary to get the piles down some 5 feet. There were one or two small areas where the piles went deeper than was normal, and that was found to be due to potholes in the top surface of the chalk on the seabed, which existed just as they did in the chalk on the high cliffs between Folkestone and Dover, where the top of the chalk was not absolutely level but contained occasional potholes. When the trouble due to the percolation of water occurred, although there had been nothing to indicate either in the dredging which had taken place or in the prickings or in the excavations for the outer walls that such trouble would be met with, he thought it wise to make a series of eight borings, locating the boreholes at those places where there was evidence of percolation visible on the water-surface of the enclosed area. In one of these borings at some little depth a layer of wet sand about 5 feet thick was reached. In other places the borings showed perfectly solid chalk. Why that sort of variation occurred at that place was, he thought, beyond the power of geologists to explain.

As to whether the percolation-water was fresh or salt, in the course of the work one or two springs of very cold fresh water had been found, but the percolation-water was undoubtedly sea-water which came through the fissures from the outside. Referring to the question of why pumping had not been continued when a head of 20 feet of water had been held, after a prolonged period of continuous pumping at the rate of about 1,000,000 gallons per hour it had been found that not more than a 20-foot head of water could be held, and that only for a short period. Many barge-loads of mud were deposited to try to seal up the interstices which existed, but the

<sup>1</sup> Journal Inst. C.E., vol. 3 (1935-36), p. 3. (June, 1936.)

The Author.

amount of percolation remained unchanged. The pumping had been stopped because it was thought quite possible that if it had been continued the chalk would have blown up under the complete outer walls, as the water boiled up in some places quite heavily. Apart from that, there was the question of expense, as heavy continuous pumping of the order mentioned was very costly.

With regard to the placing of concrete under water, Mr. Wentworth Sheilds had asked why the underwater-skip method of placing the concrete in the pump-chamber floor had been adopted. It would be found on reference to the drawings that each of the rectangular spaces between the girders of the floor was about 40 feet long, 4 feet 6 inches by 4 feet, and those spaces were filled up one at a time with concrete. For that particular work skips were the most convenient, and the concreting did not cease until the whole of each space was filled up in one continuous operation. He had thought that it would be a suitable precautionary measure to give a cement wash to the girders beforehand, as if there were any tendency of the concrete to shrink away from the steel girders the cement wash given to the steelwork might form a key there. In the result the whole operation had been very successful.

As to which was the preferable method for depositing concrete under water, by tremie pipes or by underwater skips, he thought that with large masses it was better to use tremie pipes, which enabled the concrete to be deposited simultaneously with any suitable number of pipes, the discharge from the bases of which enabled a homogeneous mass to be built up. If the work were kept going continuously there was not time for laitance to form until the whole mass had been placed. Generally speaking, the best method to adopt depended on the conditions to be met with in each case.

In regard to the question of rectangular joints and "sausage" joints, the latter were very successful, as he had never found any leakage through them, and the cores, which were enclosed in canvas tubing, did not seem to work loose. The joints seemed to be doing everything that was expected of them.

The rate of dredging had been low, but Dover was a place where the conditions were extraordinarily difficult. There were many periods when the dredger could only work for perhaps one or two days per week. The dredger-buckets were fitted with manganese-steel teeth attached to the lips to loosen the chalk, which was very hard, but the buckets came up with only a few shovelfuls of materials at a time, although the dredging vessel employed was a stout one. A trial was made with a more powerful dredger but the results were not so satisfactory. Blasting operations and the employment of rock breakers had been considered, but as the entrance to the Dover Inner Harbour had to be kept safe and free from interrupt-

blasting was not permissible in the outer area where the rate of dredging was the lowest. A rock-breaker had been tried, but it was found to be ineffective in improving the rate of progress. As mentioned in the Paper, blasting was employed in making the egress-channel from the pumps to the outer water, but very small charges were used there in a confined space. A considerable amount of heavier blasting was also done in the inner area in removing a mass of old brickwork and stone structures which existed on the site of the lifting-bridge foundations. Really heavy blasting was not, however, permissible, because of the possibility of causing damage to structures in the vicinity, and in any case it would have been of very doubtful advantage. The rate of dredging was the best which could be done under the conditions existing, and was improved by 50 per cent. in the inner dock, where swell conditions were eliminated. Considering the hardness of the chalk he thought that the rate of progress had been good. In reply to Mr. Hindmarsh, he would point out that in a number of cases where it had been possible to make a subsequent examination of the concrete placed under water, it had been found to be consistently good and equal to concrete placed in the ordinary manner. That was noticeably the case when excavating for the egress-channel from the pumps to the outer sea (which channel passed under the north wall), and also in the pump-chamber itself.

The use of diving bells, which would have involved heavy lifting appliances, had been considered, but that method would have been far more costly and would have slowed down the rate of progress considerably.

The steel buffers filled with grease on the face of the berthing jetties had proved quite satisfactory, and the Author had used the same method on the reinforced-concrete landing stage at Portsmouth Harbour some 5 or 6 years ago, where they were also giving every satisfaction. The grease which was put in the buffer-casing was, of course, not packed in, nor did it act as in a dashpot.

Regarding Mr. Maunsell's remarks on the Storstrom bridge, the Author thought that the conditions at that bridge were not comparable to those at Dover, for the reason that at the latter place on a number of occasions heavy swells producing waves from 12 to 16 feet high were experienced, and it was a common occurrence for there to be a swell of from 5 to 6 feet. Moreover, whilst there was no tide in the Baltic, there was an average range of tide of approximately 18 feet at Dover, which on many occasions during the spring tides was exceeded; indeed, the ultimate range of 25 feet was experienced during the course of the work.

In constructing the piers of the jetty, the bulk of which was done during the summer months, although the steel boxes for the uttering were provided with heavy walings, as well as being



The Author. braced to heavy staging, they were smashed in on more than one occasion during rough weather.

The Author was interested to hear of Mr. Williamson's experience with the type of girderwork described across the Yangtse Kiang between Nanking and Pookow. It was bound to follow, however, if a bridge was put "in winding," as was the one at Dover where loading and unloading of traffic was taking place, unless provisions were made for movement at the joints of the cross-girders with the main girders and railbearers, that there would be heavy and incalculable stresses put on such joints, which in the course of time would lead to trouble. Perhaps, however, the conditions described by Mr. Williamson were not similar to those at Dover.

Replying to a further point raised by Mr. Wentworth-Sheilds the Author would emphasize that to avoid the formation of laitance with under-water concrete, the whole of the concrete had to be deposited at one time to a point above low-water level. If any laitance formed on the top during tidal conditions it could afterwards be easily removed. The cement used had no special characteristics. Krupp piling had been used because it could be obtained quicker than Larssen piling, and because weight for weight it had a higher transverse strength.

Mr. Case's notes regarding the construction of Beachy Head lighthouse were instructive, but it was within the Author's knowledge that a considerable amount of work in the chalk many feet below low-water level had been carried out in the dry in connexion with the docks in the Dover Inner Harbour, although owing to the eastward dip of the strata the lower grey and more impermeable chalk should there be at a lower level than was the case at the site of the ferry dock.

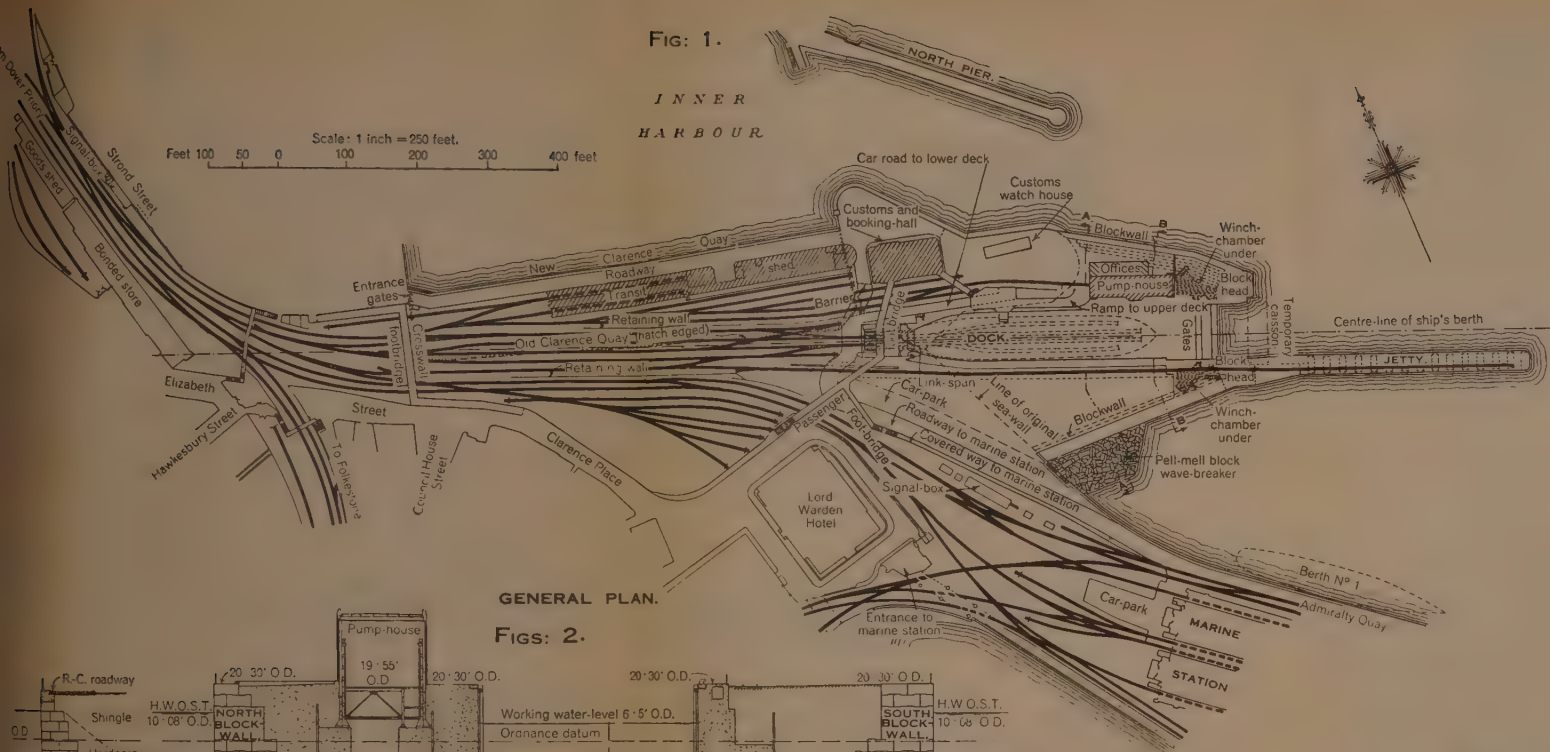
It was regretted that the costs regarding the work could not at present be given as suggested by Dr. Brysson Cunningham.

The screeding of the surface of the concrete floor was done with iron straight-edges worked on the top of old rails previously set at the required levels. The disturbance, if any, of the deposited material had not clouded the view of divers, as in any case the water was opaque.

Very little mud accumulated on the floor of the entrance, owing to the heavy scour which was caused when the ferry vessels left the dock. There was an indicator in the gate-control room which showed the exact position of the gates at all points during their lowering. There was an excess weight of 50 tons over the buoyancy of each of the gates to ensure that they would lie on the bottom. All the steelwork used under water had been coated wherever possible with tar or with suitable paint as a protection against corrosion.

\* \* \* The Correspondence on the foregoing Paper will be published in the Institution Journal for October, 1938.—ACTING SEC. INST. C.

FIG: 1.



## DOVER TRAIN-FERRY DOCK.

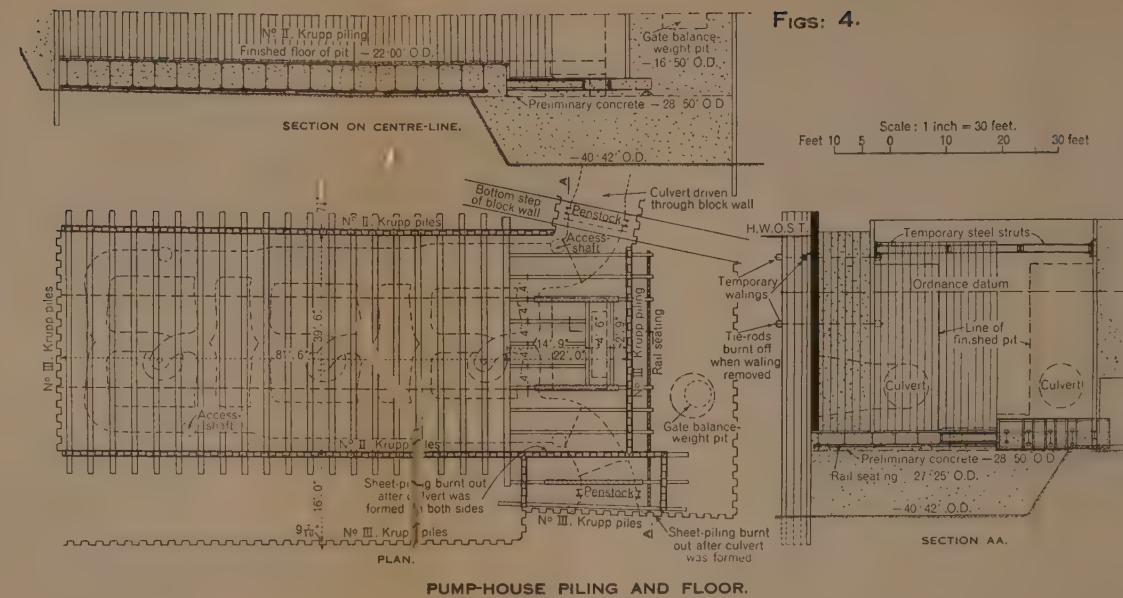
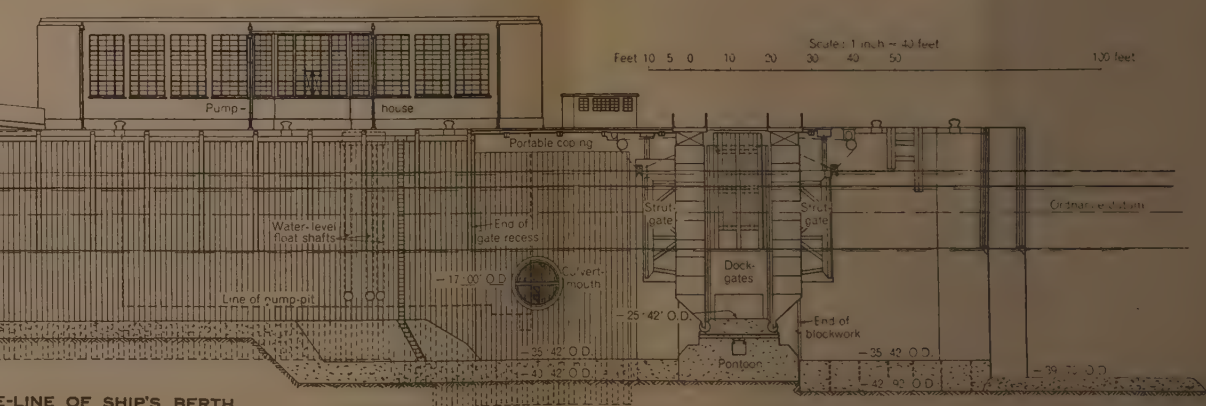


FIG: 3.







Scale: 1 inch = 16 feet.

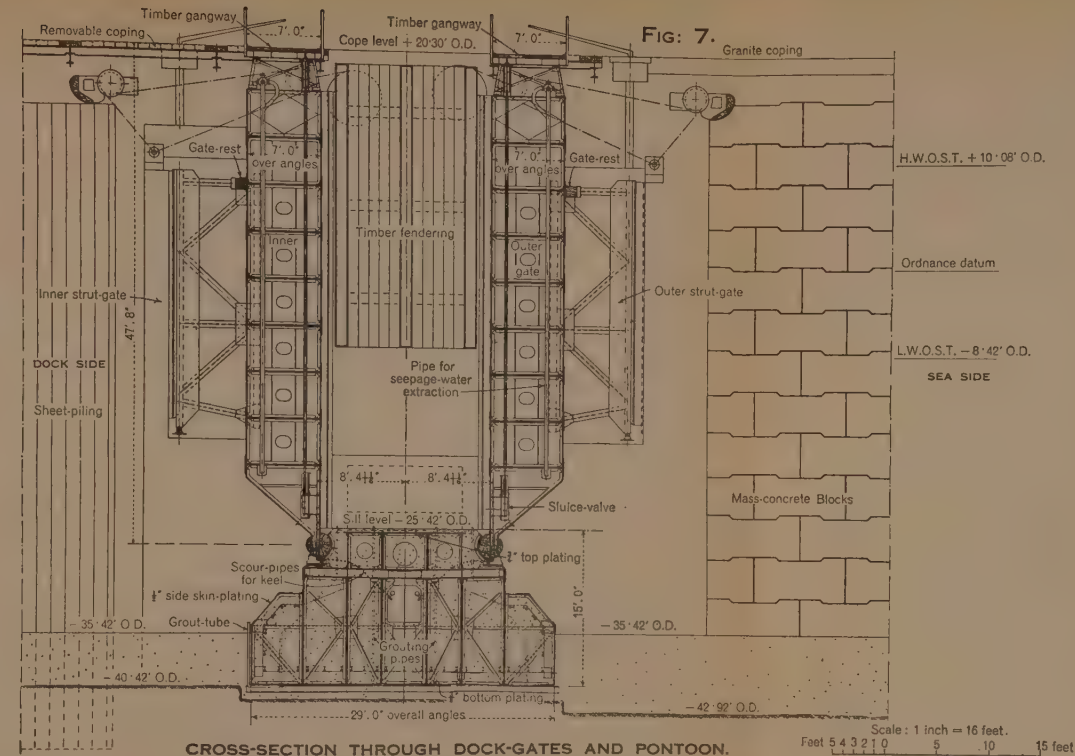
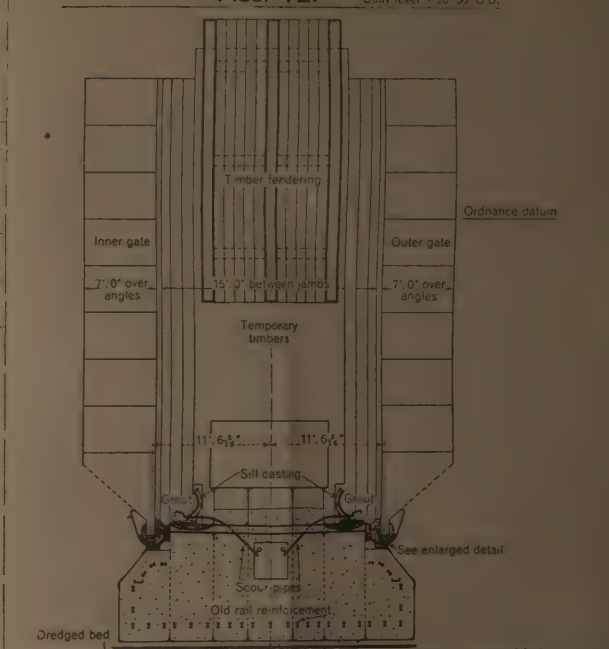
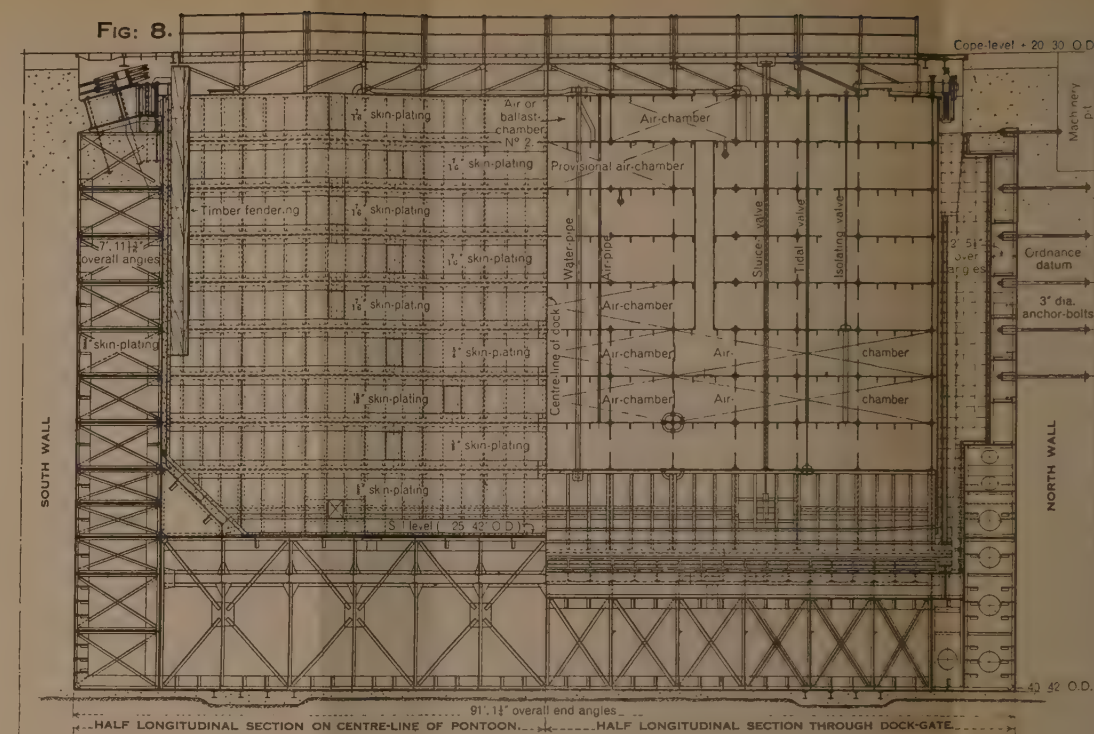
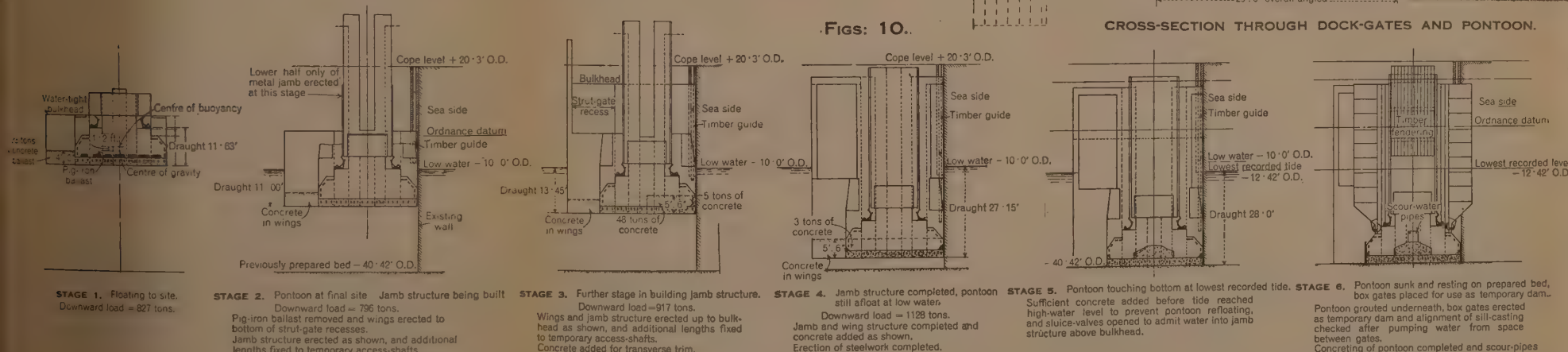


FIG: 8

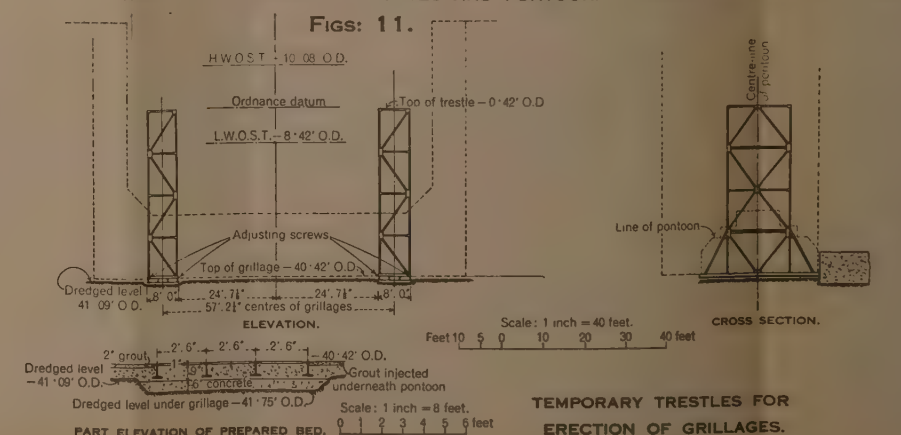


CROSS-SECTION THROUGH DOCK-GATES AND PONTON



SECTIONAL ELEVATION OF GATES AND PONTOON

FIGS: 11.



Bulkhead

Timber fendering

Temporary timbers forming cofferdam

Inner gate

Outer gate

**PART SECTIONAL PLAN,**

Dock-gate

6' x 1/2' flat

6' x 1/2' flat

Timber block

Greenheart keel

Water-seal

6' x 1/2' flat

Timber wedge

6' x 1/2' flat

Timber block

Pontoon

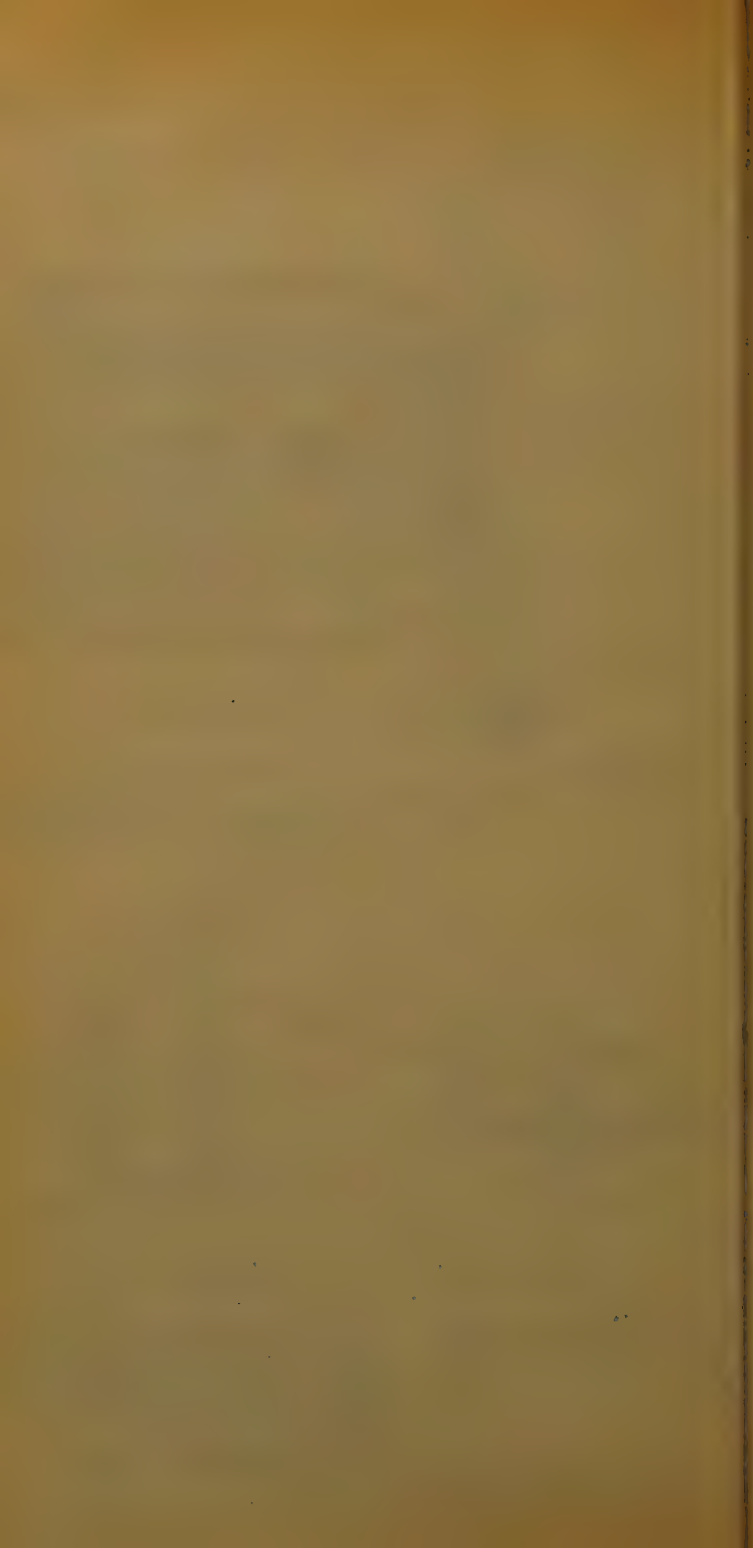
inches 12 6 0 1 2 3 feet

Scale . 1 inch = 4 feet

**DETAIL SHOWING TEMPORARY FIXING OF DOCK-GATES.**

DOCK-GATES IN TEMPORARY POSITION ON PONTON.

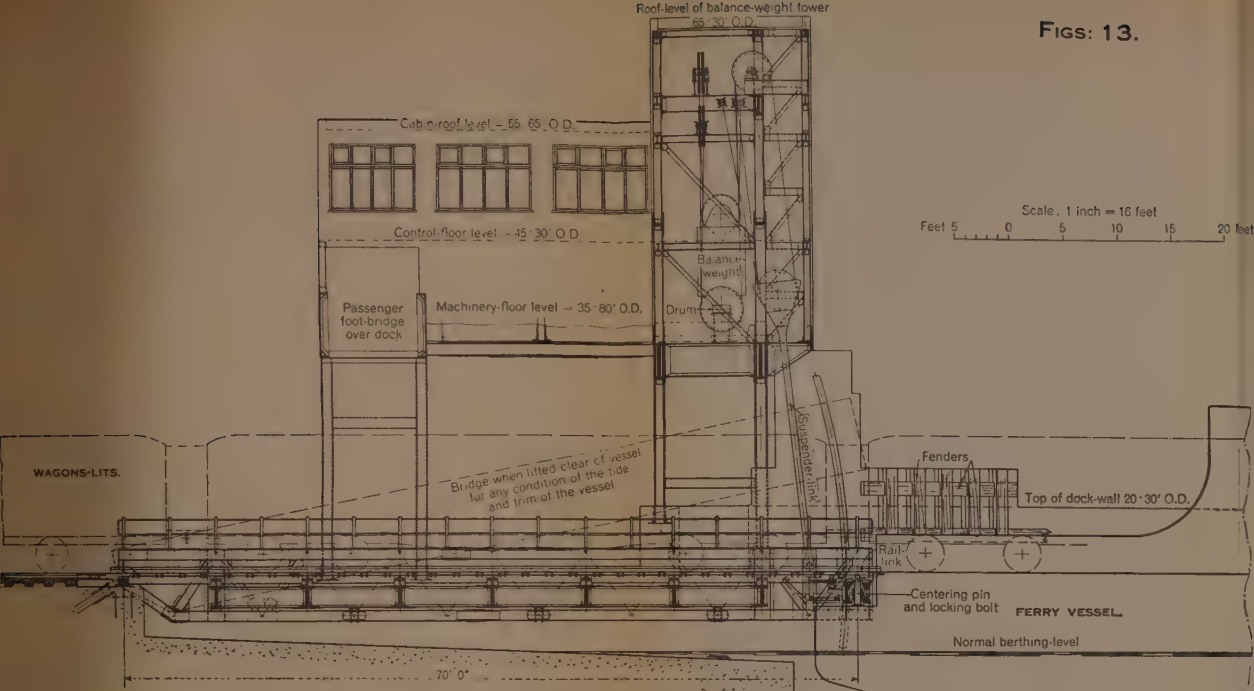




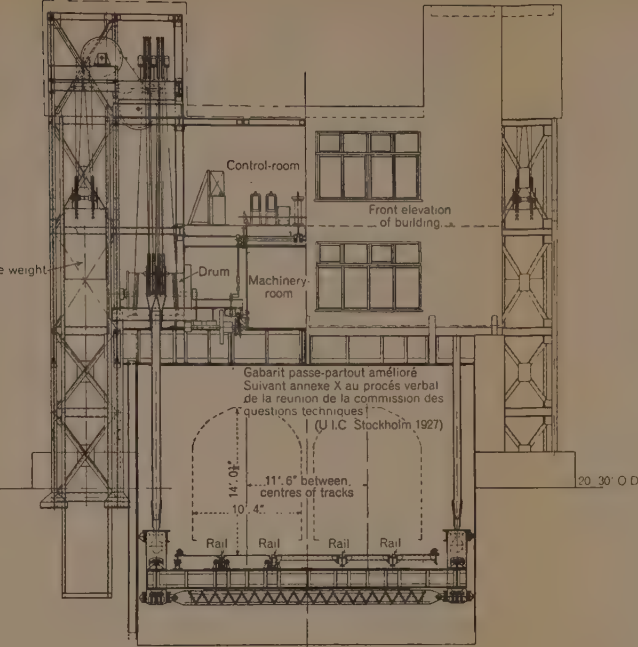
DOVER TRAIN-FERRY DOCK.

Figs: 13.

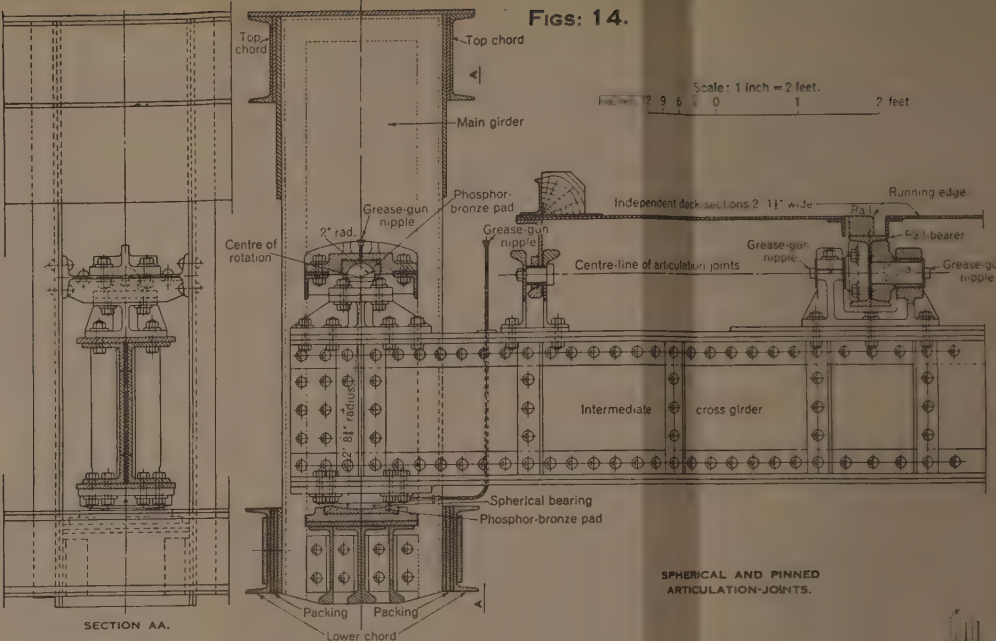
Figs: 14.



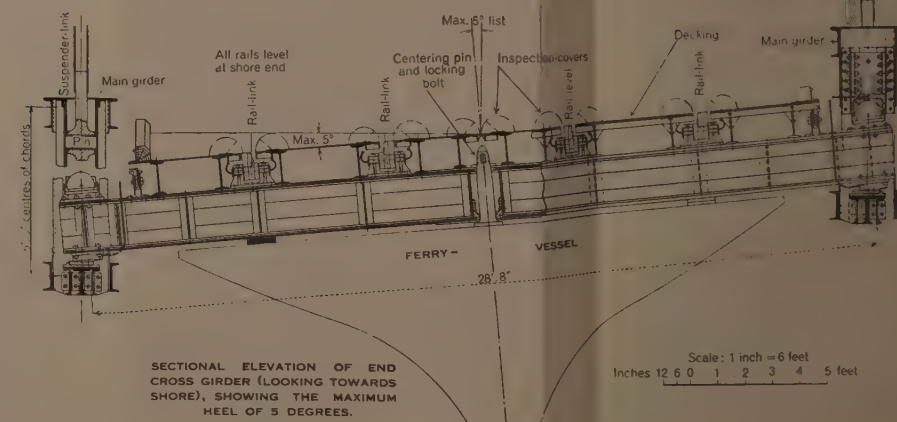
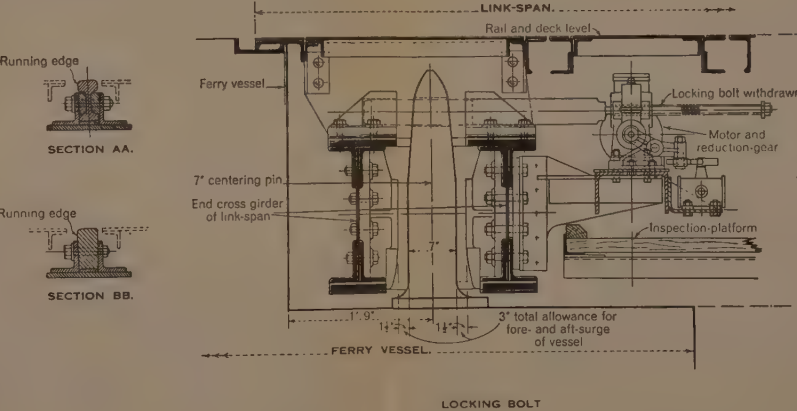
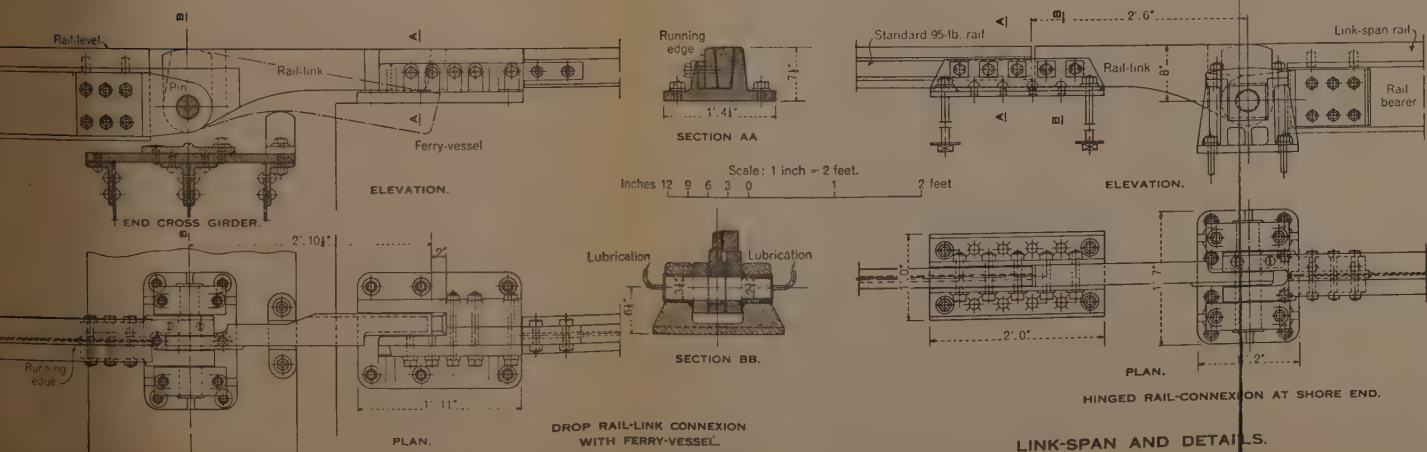
LONGITUDINAL SECTION



PART SECTIONAL ELEVATION FROM FERRY-VESSEL



SPHERICAL AND PINNED ARTICULATION JOINTS.



ARTICULATION OF LINK-SPAN.



Paper No. 5079.

“The Effect of the Form of Cross-Section on the Capacity  
and Cost of Trunk Sewers.

By THOMAS DONKIN, Assoc. M. Inst. C.E.

(Ordered by the Council to be published with written discussion.)<sup>1</sup>

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Introduction . . . . .	261
Accepted method for calculating velocity and discharge . . . . .	262
Sewer-sections considered . . . . .	265
Formula for calculation of sewer-diameter . . . . .	266
Comparative discharges of various types of sewers . . . . .	267
Dimensions of various types of sewers for equal capacities . . . . .	269
Invert-velocities for small discharges . . . . .	269
Depth of flow for small discharges . . . . .	272
Relative costs of various sewer-sections . . . . .	274
Tables . . . . .	280

INTRODUCTION.

WHEN considering the design of a trunk sewer, the usual practice is to use either a circular or an egg-shaped form of cross-section, the choice between the two being determined usually by the general gradient of the particular length of sewer under consideration. It is usual, in cases where the gradients are reasonably good, to adopt a circular form, the egg-shaped form being used in cases where it is desired to obtain better self-cleansing velocities on account of the flatness of the gradient.

It is proposed to discuss the relative merits and costs of both these forms of cross-section, together with those of another form of cross-section, which may be called a U-shaped section. This so-called U-shaped section in its fundamental form has a semicircular invert with vertical side walls and a flat top, within which may be inscribed a circle of the same radius as the invert. Three forms of this particular type of sewer will be considered in two different proportions of height to width.

<sup>1</sup> Correspondence on this Paper can be accepted until the 15th March, 1938, and will be published in the Institution Journal for October, 1938.—ACTING SEC. INST. C.E.



## ACCEPTED METHOD FOR CALCULATING VELOCITY AND DISCHARGE.

The accepted method of calculating the velocity and the discharge of any sewer or open channel, no matter what its form of cross-section may be, is by means of an expression of the following form :—

$$V = CM^x I^y,$$

where  $V$  denotes the average velocity,

$M$  „ hydraulic mean depth,

$I$  „ inclination or slope,

and  $C$  is a constant.

From this it is obvious that the average velocities of discharge vary in direct ratio to the slope raised to the power  $y$  and to the hydraulic mean depth raised to the power  $x$ . It will thus be seen that the form of cross-section is independent of the constant and the slope, and that for equal slopes the velocity is directly proportional to the hydraulic mean depth raised to the power  $x$ . Since the discharge is obtained by multiplying the average velocity obtained from the above expression by the cross-sectional area of the sewer, it follows that the discharge is also directly proportional to the particular form of cross-section under consideration.

When calculating the size of any particular type of sewer, a gradient is first of all assumed, from which the size is obtained, and it is obvious that for equal slopes it is possible to compare the relative sizes of the various forms of cross-section which will give the desired capacity. It is useful to compare these relative forms with, say, a standard circular section of unit radius on the assumption that the slopes are equal, and the same type of expression is used in calculating both the average velocity and the capacity.

Assuming the standard circular section to have a radius equal to unity, the hydraulic mean radii of all types of cross-section may be expressed in the following manner :—

$$M = ER$$

where  $M$  denotes the hydraulic mean radius,

$R$  „ radius of a standard circular section and is equal to unity,

and  $E$  is a constant for the cross-section in question.

It follows from this that the average velocity for any section may be expressed in the following manner :—

$$V = (ER)^x$$

The cross-sectional area of any particular form may also be expressed in the following manner :—

$$A = BR^2$$

where  $A$  denotes the area of cross-section,  
and  $B$  is a constant.

Having expressed the velocity and area in terms of the radius of a standard circular section, it is possible to express the discharge as

$$Q = BE^x R^{(2+x)}$$

where  $Q$  denotes the capacity.

It is thus possible to express the properties of any form of cross-section in the following manner :—

- (1) The area in terms of the radius of the standard circular section squared.
- (2) The wetted perimeter in terms of the radius of the standard circular section.
- (3) The hydraulic mean depth in terms of the radius of the standard circular section.
- (4) The velocity in terms of the radius of the standard circular section raised to the power  $x$ .
- (5) The discharge in terms of the radius of the standard circular section raised to the power  $(2 + x)$ .

Having obtained in this manner the various properties of each form of cross-section, it is possible to make the following comparisons :—

(a) *Comparative Capacities for Equal Diameters.*

The comparison of capacities for equal diameters is obtained directly from the discharges of each particular form of cross-section, which are expressed in terms of the unit radius raised to the power  $(2 + x)$ .

(b) *Comparative Diameters for Equal Capacities.*

In order to compare the relative diameters of each type which will give the same discharge for equal gradients, using the same form of expression when calculating the velocity and capacity, it is necessary to use the following method :—

Let  $K = BE^x$  be a constant which is the coefficient of discharge of a circular section.

Let  $R$  denote the radius of a standard circular section and be equal to unity.

Let  $K_1 = B_1 E_1^x$  be a constant which is the coefficient of discharge applicable to the form of section to be considered.

Let  $R_1$  denote the equivalent radius of the form of section under consideration.

Then, equating the discharges,

$$K_1 R_1^{(2+x)} = K R^{(2+x)},$$

whence

$$R_1 = \left( \frac{K}{K_1} \right)^{\left( \frac{1}{2+x} \right)}.$$

In this manner it is possible to express in terms of the radius of a standard circular section (that is, in terms of unity) the radius of any particular form of cross-section having the same discharge.

(c) *Comparative Invert-Velocities and Comparative Depths of Flow for Equal Capacities of Small Flows.*

From the various radii obtained in this manner, it is now possible to calculate constants which, when applied to the various properties of the section originally calculated at unit radius, will give those properties in terms of sections having equal capacities instead of equal diameters. These new properties may be calculated in the following manner:—

- (i) The area of cross-section may be expressed in terms of unit radius squared, multiplied by the equivalent radius squared.

That is, 
$$R_1^2 = \left( \frac{BE^x}{B_1 E_1^x} \right)^{\left( \frac{2}{2+x} \right)},$$

and

$$A_1 = A R_1^2.$$

- (ii) The wetted perimeter may be expressed in terms of unit radius, multiplied by the equivalent radius.

That is, 
$$R_1 = \left( \frac{BE^x}{B_1 E_1^x} \right)^{\left( \frac{1}{2+x} \right)},$$

and

$$P_1 = P R_1,$$

where  $P$  denotes the wetted perimeter for a section of unit radius expressed in terms of the unit radius.

and  $P_1$  „ wetted perimeter for a section of equivalent radius expressed in terms of the unit radius.

- (iii) The hydraulic mean depth may be expressed in terms of unit radius multiplied by the equivalent radius.

That is,

$$M_1 = M R_1.$$

- (iv) The average velocity may be expressed in terms of the unit radius raised to the power  $x$ , multiplied by the equivalent radius raised to the power  $x$ .

That is,

$$R_1^x = \left( \frac{BE^x}{B_1E_1^x} \right)^{\left( \frac{x}{2+x} \right)},$$

and

$$V_1 = VR_1^x.$$

- (v) The discharge may be expressed in terms of the unit radius raised to the power  $(2+x)$ , multiplied by the equivalent radius raised to the power  $(2+x)$ .

That is,

$$R_1^{(2+x)} = \left( \frac{BE^x}{B_1E_1^x} \right).$$

But

$$Q_1 = QR_1^{(2+x)},$$

and hence

$$Q_1 = Q \left( \frac{K}{K_1} \right).$$

From this it will be seen that the two discharges bear the same relation to one another as the two coefficients of discharge, and that it is possible to compare both the invert-velocities for equal small-percentage capacities, and the depths of flow applicable to them.

#### SEWER-SECTIONS CONSIDERED.

The sections which it is proposed to consider are as follows :—

- (1) Standard circular section of unit radius.
- (2) Egg-shaped section, height  $2R$ , width  $1\frac{1}{3}R$ . (It should be noted that this is the old form of egg-shaped section.)
- (3) U-shaped section, form No. 1, height  $2R$ , width  $2R$ . (This section has a semicircular invert, vertical side walls and a flat top.)
- (4) U-shaped section, form No. 2, height  $2R$ , width  $2R$ . (The invert in this case is perfectly flat for a width of about  $0.8R$ , with a two-centred curve running from the invert to the vertical side walls, which are of height  $R$ .)
- (5) U-shaped section, form No. 3, height  $2R$ , width  $2R$ . (This section has a five-centred curve for the invert, and vertical side walls  $1R$  in height, and is sharply curved in the bottom of the invert.)
- (6) U-shaped section, form No. 1, height  $2.33R$ , width  $2R$ . (In this case the height of the vertical side walls is  $1.33R$ , but otherwise it is the same as type No. 3.)
- (7) U-shaped section, form No. 2, height  $2.33R$ , width  $2R$ . (This is the same modification of the previous form No. 2 as type No. 6 is of type No. 3.)
- (8) U-shaped section, form No. 3, height  $2.33R$ , width  $2R$ . (The height of the vertical side walls is  $1.33R$ , and this is the same modification of type No. 5 as types Nos. 6 and 7 were of types Nos. 3 and 4.)

Before considering these eight types of section, it is interesting to compare the standard circular section with type No. 3; that is,



with the U-shaped section, form No. 1, having a height and width of  $2R$  and a semicircular invert.

It is a well-known fact that the hydraulic mean radius of a circular section is equal to  $0.5$  of the radius of that section, and if a comparison is made between a circular section and the U-shaped section of unit radius of form No. 1, it is found that the hydraulic mean radius is also  $0.5 R$ , where  $R$  denotes the radius of the circle which can be inscribed within this particular U-shaped form of section. It follows from this that when comparing these two particular sections, each having unit radius, the velocities in each case will be equal for the same invert-gradient. It follows also that the discharges of these two particular sections will be directly proportional to their cross-sectional areas, and since the area of the circular section is  $3.142 R^2$ , and the area of the U-shaped section of form No. 1 is  $3.571 R^2$ , it is obvious that, for the same diameters, the capacity of the U-shaped section is  $13.80$  per cent. greater than the capacity of the circular section. The use of this form of section instead of the ordinary circular section having the same radius enables a reduction in size to be made.

#### FORMULA FOR CALCULATION OF SEWER-DIAMETER.

The most generally accepted formula that is used in calculating the diameters of sewers is Santo Crimp's and Bruges' formula,<sup>1</sup> which was used in compiling the Tables they published in 1897, and which is as follows :—

$$V = 124 M^{0.67} S^{0.50},$$

$$Q = 38.63 D^{2.67} S^{0.50}.$$

The formula quoted by Mr. A. A. Barnes<sup>2</sup> is as follows :—

$$V = 107 M^{0.7} S^{0.5}$$

$$Q = 31.85 D^{2.7} S^{0.5}$$

where  $V$  denotes the velocity,

$M$  „ hydraulic mean depth,

$S$  „ slope or inclination,

$Q$  „ capacity,

and  $D$  „ diameter.

In comparing the properties of the various sections which will be referred to later, the Santo Crimp and Bruges formula has been used.

<sup>1</sup> W. E. Bruges, "Crimp and Bruges Tables and Diagrams for use in Designing Sewers and Water Mains," p. 13. London, 1936.

<sup>2</sup> "Hydraulic Flow Reviewed," Plates VII and VIII. London, 1916.

The constants in the above expressions, both for velocity and discharge, have no bearing on the relative merits of the sections under consideration, as they only affect the actual scale or size of the section used, and do not affect in any way the relative properties of each type of section.

Since the slopes in both formulas are raised to the power 0.50, and all the various comparisons are made on the basis of equal slopes, the use of either formula does not affect the comparisons made between the various sections. It must be noted, however, that the powers to which the hydraulic mean depths and the diameters are raised do affect these comparisons. The actual effect on the relative sizes of each particular section is, however, a small one, and since the Santo Crimp and Bruges formula is the one most generally used when considering sewer-sections, it is proposed to make the comparisons on that basis.

#### COMPARATIVE DISCHARGES OF VARIOUS TYPES OF SEWERS.

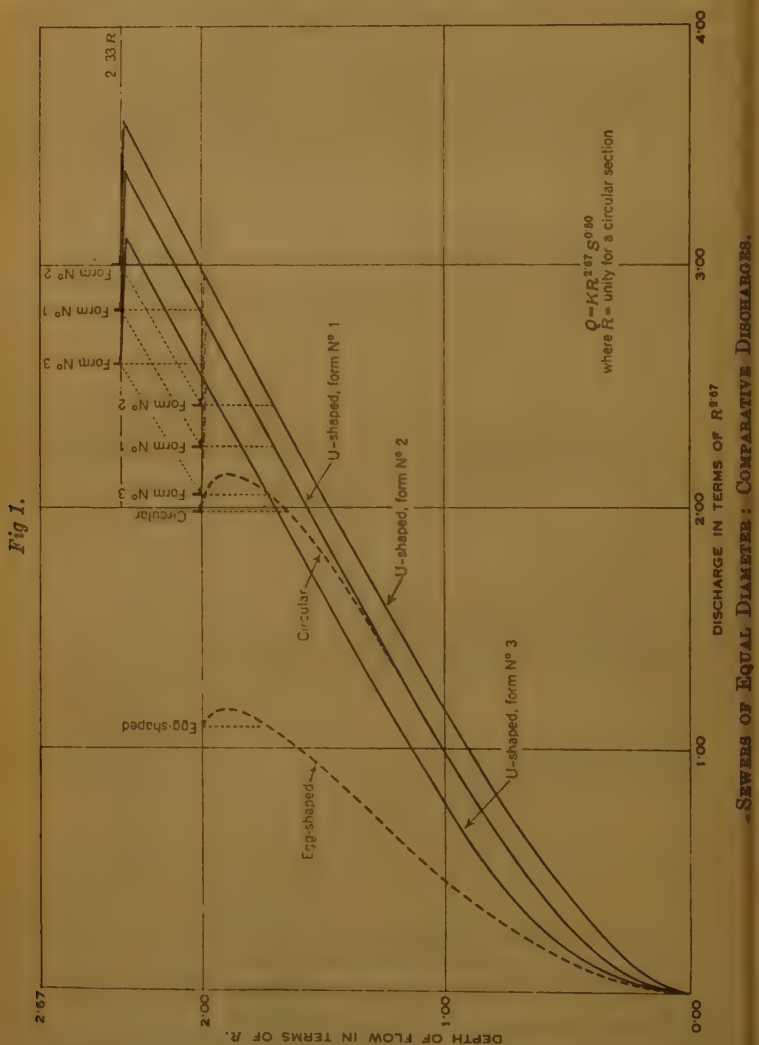
The properties of the various types of sewers when of equal diameter are shown in Tables I to V (pp. 280 *et seq*), which set out at various proportional depths the area, wetted perimeter, hydraulic mean depth, velocity and discharge in terms of the radius of a standard circular section.

The comparative discharges of the various types of sewers, when of equal diameter, are as follows:—

(1) Circular . . . . .	1.979 $R^{2.67}$
(2) Egg-shaped (old form) . . . . .	1.082 $R^{2.67}$
(3) U-shaped, form No. 1 . . . . .	2.240 $R^{2.67}$
(4) " " No. 2 . . . . .	2.422 $R^{2.67}$
(5) " " No. 3 . . . . .	2.052 $R^{2.67}$
(6) " " No. 1 . . . . .	2.819 $R^{2.67}$
(7) " " No. 2 . . . . .	3.000 $R^{2.67}$
(8) " " No. 3 . . . . .	2.595 $R^{2.67}$

*Fig. 1* (p. 268) shows the capacities of the eight forms of section plotted in terms of the radius of the standard circular section. It should be noted that the discharges are expressed in terms of the unit radius of circular section raised to the power 2.67, and it will be seen that the U-shaped section, form No. 2, gives the largest capacity and the egg-shaped section the smallest capacity, for depths which are equal to the vertical diameter of the circular section. When the depths are increased to 2.33  $R$ , U-shaped section, form No. 2, gives the largest capacity and the U-shaped section, form No. 3, the least capacity, for that particular depth of flow.

*Fig. 1* also indicates the capacity in excess of that for a circular sewer when flowing full of which each particular type is capable,



SEWERS OF EQUAL DIAMETER: COMPARATIVE DISCHARGES.

and it will be seen that the U-shaped forms give a much larger margin in this respect than the ordinary circular section, and that the egg-shaped section gives the least margin of all.

## DIMENSIONS OF VARIOUS TYPES OF SEWERS FOR EQUAL CAPACITIES.

The comparative dimensions of the various types of sewers when of equal capacity are as follows, expressed in terms of the unit radius of a standard circular section :—

- (1) Circular section, height  $2R$ , width  $2R$ .
- (2) Egg-shaped section, height  $2.51 R$ , width  $1.67 R$ .
- (3) U-shaped section of form No. 1, height  $1.906 R$ , width  $1.906 R$ .
- (4)     "     "     "     No. 2, height  $1.854 R$ , width  $1.854 R$ .
- (5)     "     "     "     No. 3, height  $1.990 R$ , width  $1.990 R$ .
- (6)     "     "     "     No. 1, height  $2.044 R$ , width  $1.752 R$ .
- (7)     "     "     "     No. 2, height  $1.995 R$ , width  $1.710 R$ .
- (8)     "     "     "     No. 3, height  $2.107 R$ , width  $1.806 R$ .

The method of calculation used to obtain the comparative dimensions shown above is set out in Tables VI to VIII (pp. 282–3). Table VI shows in summarized form the comparative discharges of the various sections for equal diameters.

The values of the equivalent radius  $R_1$  together with the constants required to calculate the properties of each section for equal discharges are shown on Table VII, and Table VIII sets out in summarized form the comparative areas, velocities, etc., for equal discharges, in terms of unit radius of the standard circular section.

The comparative dimensions of these eight forms of section are shown in *Figs. 2* (p. 270), and in each case a standard circular section of unit radius has been superimposed in order to aid comparison. It will be seen that in each type there is a considerable reduction in overall width with the exception of type No. 5, where the difference is negligible. The greatest reduction in width applies to the egg-shaped section, which at the same time has the greatest height.

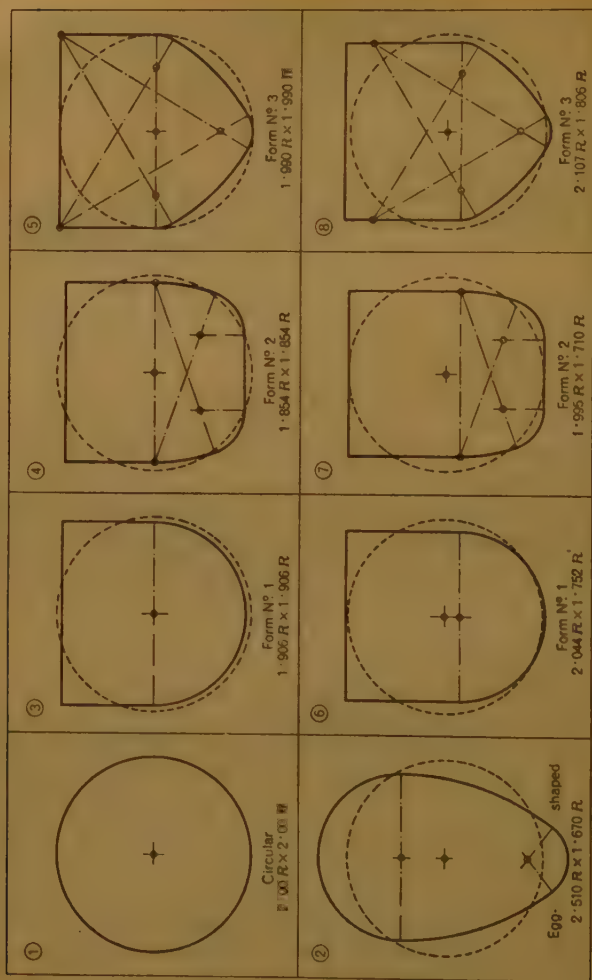
Each of these particular equivalent sections gives the same capacity for the same gradient, and the choice of any one of them depends in the first instance on the peculiar circumstances of the situation for which the sewer is required, and, where the circumstances are identical, upon the relative cost.

## INVERT-VELOCITIES FOR SMALL DISCHARGES.

The consideration of the invert-velocities which are obtained with a particular form of sewer cross-section is most important, particularly when the sewer is part of a combined system carrying heavy storm-discharges and comparatively small dry-weather flows. In the case of most trunk sewers which form part of a combined system, the dry-weather flow represents something in the neighbourhood of 1 per cent. of the total discharge, and it is useful to make a



Fig. 2.



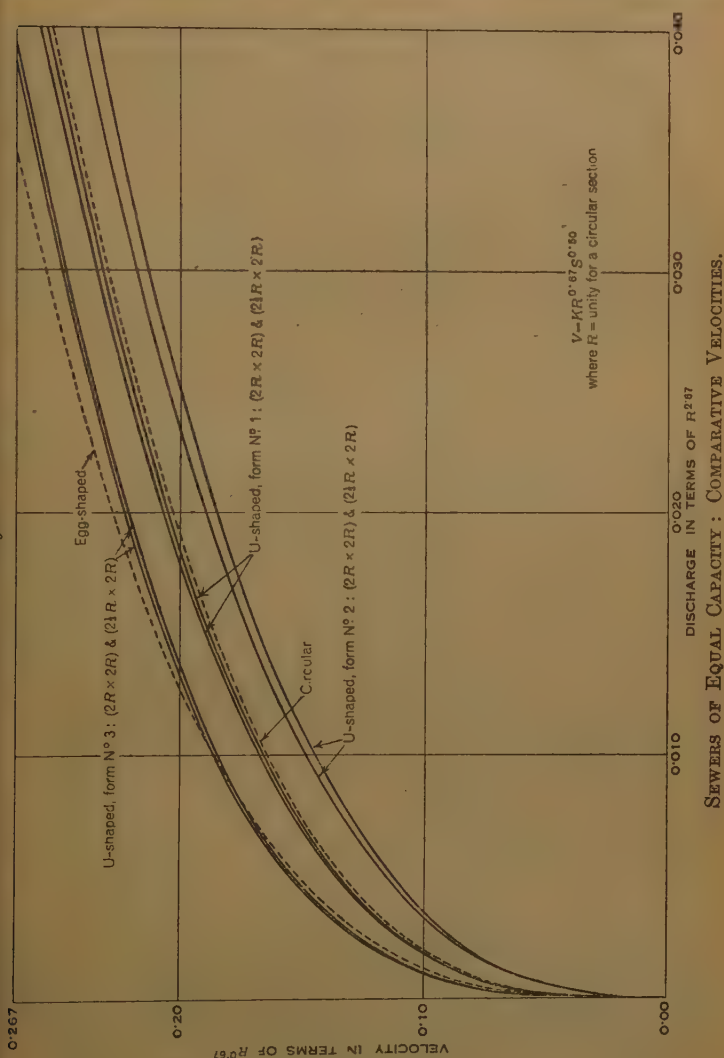
SEWERS OF EQUAL CAPACITY : COMPARATIVE DIMENSIONS.

comparison between the average velocities applicable to small flows.

The relative values of the velocities at 1 per cent. of the total discharge in the sections under consideration are as follows :—

(1)	Circular	0.202 $R^{0.67}$
(2)	Egg-shaped	0.228 $R^{0.67}$
(3)	U-shaped section, form No. 1	0.205 $R^{0.67}$
(4)	" " " No. 2	0.184 $R^{0.67}$
(5)	" " " No. 3	0.221 $R^{0.67}$
(6)	" " " No. 1	0.207 $R^{0.67}$
(7)	" " " No. 2	0.189 $R^{0.67}$
(8)	" " " No. 3	0.223 $R^{0.67}$

The comparative velocities of the various forms of cross-section of equal capacity are shown in *Fig. 3*, from which it is apparent that the egg-shaped section gives the best self-cleansing velocity, and that



form No. 3 lies very close to it, the difference being approximately 3 per cent. U-shaped sections of form No. 1 give slightly greater velocities than the ordinary standard circular section. These sections, however, give approximately 90 per cent. of the velocity

obtained by the use of a U-shaped section. U-shaped sections of form No. 2 lie close to each other, and give a velocity which is approximately 82 per cent. of the velocity obtainable from an egg-shaped section.

From this it is apparent that the use of U-shaped sections of forms Nos. 1 and 3 will give invert-velocities which lie between those obtainable from egg-shaped and from circular sections, and that the advantage gained in using the egg-shaped section rather than a circular section is not considerable from the point of view of self-cleansing velocities.

The adoption of U-shaped sections of form No. 2, although giving smaller velocities than the circular section, would apparently be quite applicable to sewers where the percentage of dry-weather flow is greater than 1 per cent., or where the invert-gradient is sufficient to obtain a self-cleansing velocity.

#### DEPTH OF FLOW FOR SMALL DISCHARGES.

In addition to considering velocities when dealing with small discharges, it is also necessary to consider the depths of flow given by these small discharges for the various forms of sewer.

From the properties of the various sections obtained in the first instance, and the use of the various constants which reduce their diameter to sewers of equal capacity, it is possible to indicate the relative depths of flow obtained in each case for small-percentage discharges. *Fig. 4* shows the depths of flow applicable to each form of cross-section of equal capacity, from which it will be seen that the depths of flow at 1 per cent. of the total discharge are as follows:—

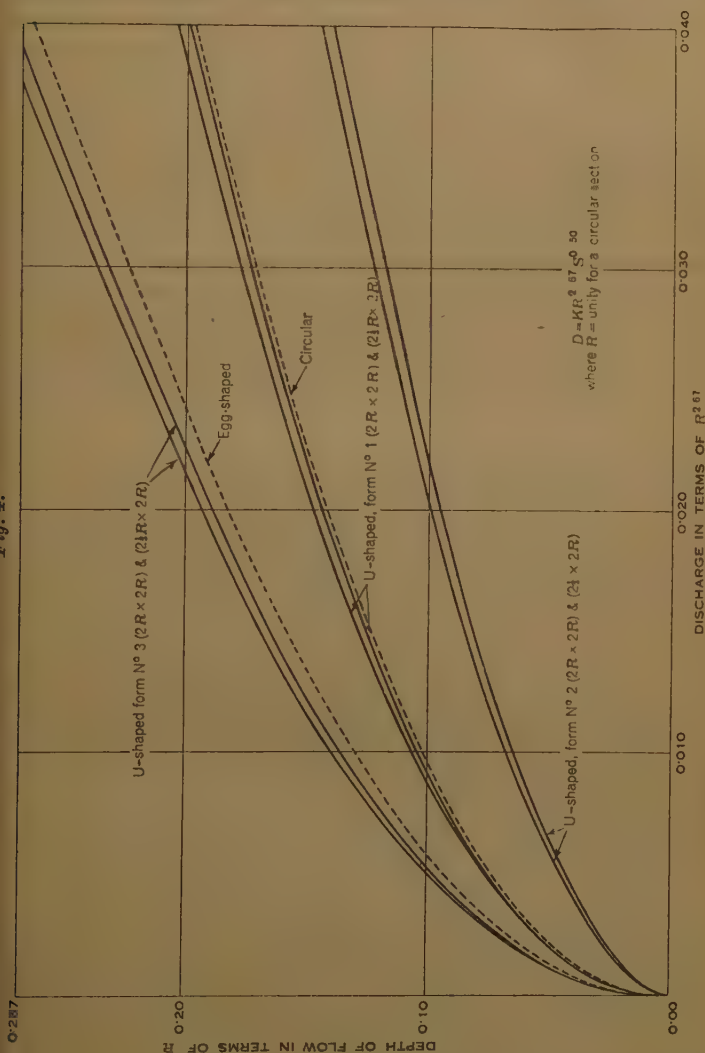
(1)	Circular	0.142 R.
(2)	Egg-shaped	0.182 R.
(3)	U-shaped, form No. 1	0.144 R.
(4)	" " No. 2	0.096 R.
(5)	" " No. 3	0.188 R.
(6)	" " No. 1	0.148 R.
(7)	" " No. 2	0.098 R.
(8)	" " No. 3	0.193 R.

It will be seen that the U-shaped sections of form No. 3 give greater depths of flow than the egg-shaped section, and U-shaped sections of form No. 1 give a greater depth than a circular section. U-shaped sections of form No. 2 give the least depth of flow.

It must be remembered that the actual size of the sewer has a direct bearing in this instance on the depths of flow obtainable, and since the types of sewer under consideration are of relatively large dimensions, this particular aspect of the problem is not so important as the question of self-cleansing velocities. Sections of form No. 2,

however, should only be used after carefully considering whether the depth of flow obtainable during small discharges is sufficient to transport properly the solid matter in the sewage. U-shaped sections

Fig. 4.



SEWERS OF EQUAL CAPACITY : COMPARATIVE DEPTH OF FLOW.

of form No. 1 can be used with perfect safety in cases where a circular section would give a sufficient depth of flow, and U-shaped sections of form No. 3 will give a better depth of flow than the ordinary egg-shaped section.



The adoption of U-shaped sections of form No. 1 gives, for all practical purposes, the invert-velocities and depths of flow which follow from the use of circular sections, with the advantage of increased capacity for the same leading diameters, and reduction in sizes for the same capacities. The adoption of U-shaped sections of form No. 2 result in invert-velocities which are some 10 per cent. less than the invert-velocities obtainable from circular sections, which with reasonable gradients is no great disadvantage from a practical standpoint.

Sections of form No. 2, however, show a considerable reduction in depths of flow for small discharges, and it would seem that they should not be adopted without careful consideration of this aspect of the circumstances for which the sewer is to be constructed. They offer, however, considerable advantages so far as capacity is concerned, and show a considerable reduction in size for sewers of the same capacity.

U-shaped sections of form No. 3 offer the same advantages as egg-shaped sections with regard to invert-velocities and depths of flow for small discharges, but show no greater reduction in diameter, when compared with circular sections.

The graphs shown in *Figs. 3 and 4* were plotted from the information given in Tables IX to XV (pp. 284 *et seq.*) inclusive, these figures being obtained from the original properties of the various sections shown in Tables I to V, multiplied by the various constants obtained from the equivalent radius  $R_1$ , and shown in Table VII.

#### RELATIVE COSTS OF VARIOUS SEWER-SECTIONS.

In order to consider the relative cost of the various forms of cross-section, it is necessary, first of all, to consider the best type of construction which should be adopted for the class of work under consideration. It is not proposed to compare costs on any other basis than that which is applicable to the best type of construction, to be adopted for trunk sewers in urban areas.

It is usual, in many instances, to construct sewers of reinforced-concrete tubes, surrounded with concrete, but as this form of construction is only economical for sewers which are smaller than 42 inches in diameter, it is proposed to consider the relative costs of sewers 42 inches in diameter and over, where the use of a 4½-inch brick ring surrounded with concrete is the most economical proposition.

The various comparisons for sewers in trench are made on the basis of circular sewers ranging in diameter from 42 to 66 inches, constructed with a 4½-inch ring of double-pressed engineering brickwork,

set in cement and surrounded with concrete, the thickness of the concrete below the invert being 9 inches and on either side  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches, with a minimum cover of 6 inches at the top and 6 inches on the 45-degrees play at either side of the top. For the equivalent diameters of egg-shaped sewers in trench the form of construction is a  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -inch ring of brickwork with the same thickness of concrete surround. For the various U-shaped sections in trench, the comparison is made on the basis of a  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -inch ring of brickwork as before, with the insertion of a header-course immediately under the flat top and at the springing-line, the thickness of concrete being 9 inches in the invert and 9 inches at either side. The flat roofs of the U-shaped sections are constructed in the form of pre-cast units, about 18 inches in length and of a sufficient thickness to carry the weight of the earth filling placed upon them.

For sewers which are to be constructed in tunnel no difference is made in the form of construction so far as brickwork and pre-cast concrete slabs are concerned, but the various thicknesses of concrete provided for are as follows :—

*For circular and egg-shaped sewers :*

A 9-inch thickness of concrete in the invert and at the sides, with a 12-inch thickness at the crown.

*For U-shaped sewers :*

A 9-inch thickness of concrete at the invert and the sides, with a 15-inch thickness at the crown.

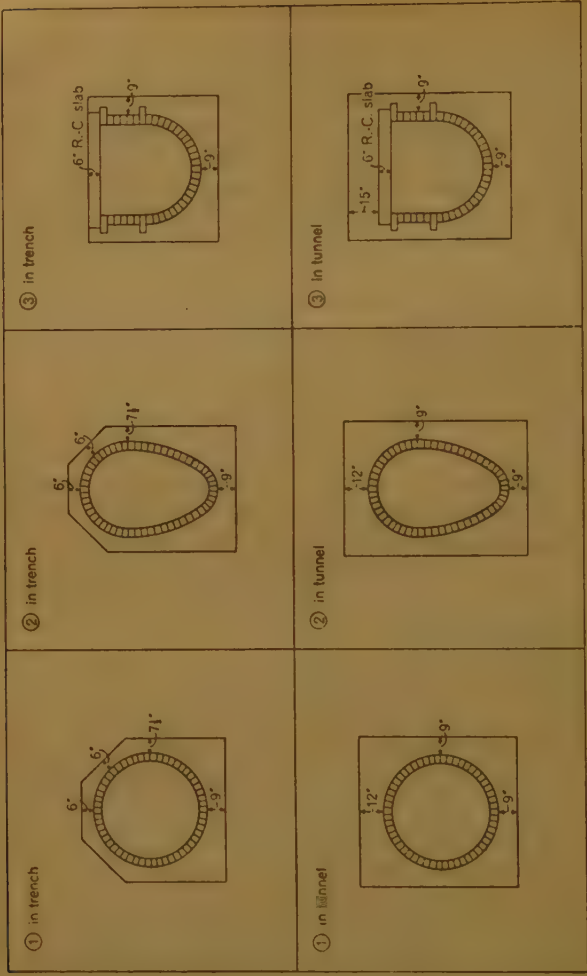
*Figs. 5* (p. 276) show circular, egg-shaped and U-shaped sewers of form No. 1 for an equivalent circular diameter of 48 inches, both in trench and in tunnel, showing provision for an extra  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch of concrete on the sides for U-shaped sections in trench, and for an additional thickness of 3 inches at the crown for U-shaped sections in tunnel.

The additional thickness provided for in trench is considered necessary because of the absence of arching effect present in both circular and egg-shaped sections, although it is more than probable that a total thickness of 12 inches of concrete and brickwork would be sufficient. The 15-inch thickness of concrete over the pre-cast slabs is provided in order to ensure that sufficient room is given to pack the headings in a proper manner.

In calculating the quantities of excavation per linear yard of sewer, the depths have been taken in each case to the crown of the section, as it is the crown-gradient and not the invert-gradient which decides the capacity of a sewer and provides the datum from which a basis of comparison can be made.

The unit prices of excavation, brickwork, concrete, and reinforced-

Fig. 5.



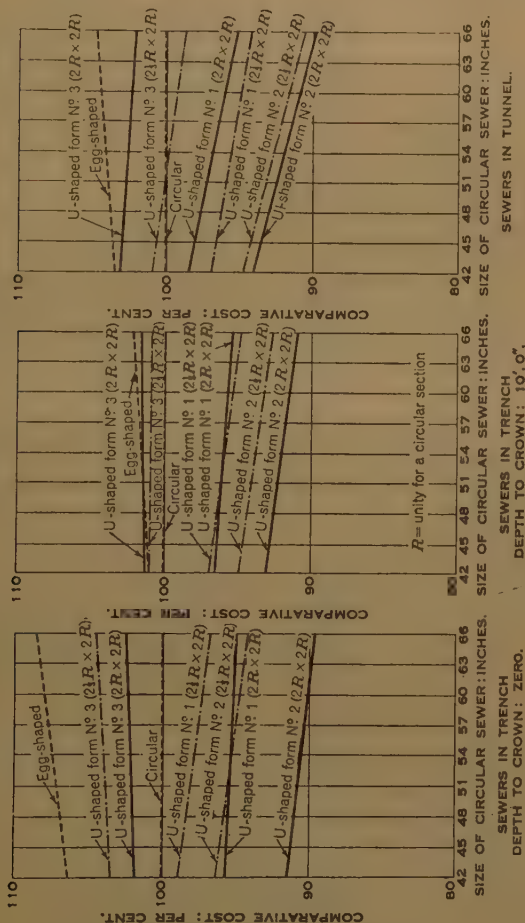
CONSTRUCTION OF SEWERS OF EQUAL CAPACITY.

concrete slabs upon which the relative prices have been calculated are as follows :—

	In trench : per cubic yard.	In tunnel : per cubic yard.
Excavation ... ..	10/-	20/-
Brickwork ... ..	80/-	80/-
Concrete ... ..	35/-	40/-
Reinforced-concrete slabs	70/-	70/-

Figs. 6 show the relative costs of the eight types of sewer for sewers in trench where the depth to crown is zero, for sewers in trench where the depth to crown is 10 feet, and for sewers in tunnel. In each case

Figs. 6.



COMPARATIVE COSTS OF SEWERS.

the sizes range from 42 inches to 66 inches diameter of standard circular section, and the cost of the circular section is expressed as 100.



For sewers of zero depth to crown, the relative values are approximately as follows:—

(1) Circular . . . . .	A constant value of 100.
(2) Egg-shaped . . . . .	An increase of from $6\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 per cent.
(3) U-shaped section, form No. 1 .	A reduction of from 4 to 6 per cent.
(4) „ „ „ No. 2 .	A reduction of from 8 to 10 per cent.
(5) „ „ „ No. 3 .	An increase of from 1 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
(6) „ „ „ No. 1 .	A reduction of from 1 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
(7) „ „ „ No. 2 .	A reduction of from 3 to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
(8) „ „ „ No. 3 .	An increase of from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 per cent.

For sewers in trench where the depth to crown is 10 feet the relative costs are as follows:—

(1) Circular . . . . .	A constant value of 100.
(2) Egg-shaped . . . . .	An increase of from 1 to 2 per cent.
(3) U-shaped section, form No. 1 .	A decrease of from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 per cent.
(4) „ „ „ No. 2 .	A decrease of from 7 to 9 per cent.
(5) „ „ „ No. 3 .	An increase of from 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
(6) „ „ „ No. 1 .	A decrease of from 3 to 5 per cent.
(7) „ „ „ No. 2 .	A decrease of from 5 to 7 per cent.
(8) „ „ „ No. 3 .	An increase of 1 per cent.

For sewers in tunnel, the relative prices are as follows:—

(1) Circular . . . . .	A constant value of 100.
(2) Egg-shaped . . . . .	An increase of from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
(3) U-shaped section, form No. 1 .	A decrease of from 2 to 5 per cent.
(4) „ „ „ No. 2 .	A decrease of from $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 per cent.
(5) „ „ „ No. 3 .	An increase of from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
(6) „ „ „ No. 1 .	A decrease of from 3 to 6 per cent.
(7) „ „ „ No. 2 .	A decrease of from $6\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 per cent.
(8) „ „ „ No. 3 .	An increase of from 0 to 1 per cent.

From these comparisons it is evident that for brickwork construction with concrete surround, the U-shaped sections of forms Nos. 1 and 2 are cheaper than the circular form of construction, the saving effected being about from 5 to 10 per cent., and proportions which give equal heights and widths are more economical than proportions which give a greater height than width.

Where it is necessary to obtain better invert-velocities, the increase in cost over a circular section by the adoption of either an egg-shaped section or a U-shaped section of form No. 3 will result in an increase in cost of between 1 and 8 per cent., but the application of the U-shaped section of form No. 3 will show no greater increase in cost over the egg-shaped form, with a possible saving of about 3 per cent. The diameter of the section has a direct bearing on the relative costs, and in the general case the larger the diameter the greater the saving will be, but it is doubtful whether it is economical to construct

U-shaped sections where the capacity is less than that of a 42-inch diameter circular section.

The saving to be effected by the general adoption of U-shaped sections may seem to be trifling, but the fact remains that they are cheaper than either circular or egg-shaped sections, and their adoption in large works of sewer-construction will undoubtedly effect considerable saving in capital cost.

Two U-shaped sewers of form No. 1 have been constructed in Sunderland and three more are to be commenced in the near future, involving a total length of 6,176 linear yards ranging from 30-inch by 30-inch to 66-inch by 66-inch in size. These particular sewers have been approved by the Ministry of Health, and in the case of one contract alternative tenders were obtained for circular sewers in reinforced-concrete tubes and for the U-shaped sewers in brickwork. The total value of this contract was about £62,700, of which £22,500 was for U-shaped sewers, the tender for circular sewers throughout being £66,000. The adoption of U-shaped sections in this case resulted in a saving of £3,300 in capital cost, which represents a saving of about 15 per cent.

This reduction in cost is greater than the reductions indicated in *Figs. 6*, but it must be remembered that tenders were obtained for circular concrete-tube sewers, and that in *Figs. 6* brick sewers are compared in each case.

The Paper is accompanied by six sheets of diagrams, from which the Figures in the text have been prepared, and by twenty-one sheets of Tables, from parts of which the following Tables I to XV have been compiled.

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TABLE I.—CIRCULAR SEWERS.

Diameter : 2·00 *R*.Area : 3·142 *R*<sup>2·00</sup>.Wetted perimeter : 6·283 *R*.Hydraulic mean depth : 0·500 *R*.Discharge : 1·979 *R*<sup>2·67</sup>.

Proportion of depth.	Area, <i>R</i> <sup>2</sup> .	Wetted perimeter, <i>R</i> .	Hydraulic mean depth, <i>R</i> .	Velocity, <i>R</i> <sup>0·67</sup> .	Discharge, <i>R</i> <sup>2·67</sup> .
0·02	0·0053	0·4003	0·0133	0·0561	0·0003
0·04	0·0151	0·5719	0·0264	0·0887	0·0014
0·06	0·0273	0·6914	0·0395	0·1158	0·0032
0·08	0·0421	0·7994	0·0524	0·1399	0·0060
0·10	0·0580	0·8980	0·0640	0·1618	0·0095
0·12	0·0769	0·9884	0·0778	0·1822	0·0141
0·14	0·0967	1·0454	0·0925	0·2012	0·0194
0·16	0·1178	1·1481	0·1026	0·2193	0·0257
0·18	0·1401	1·2193	0·1149	0·2364	0·0331
0·20	0·165	1·288	0·128	0·254	0·0414
0·30	0·296	1·589	0·186	0·326	0·096
0·40	0·448	1·853	0·242	0·389	0·174
0·60	0·776	2·281	0·340	0·487	0·378
0·80	1·171	2·733	0·428	0·568	0·665
1·00	1·571	3·142	0·500	0·630	0·989
1·20	1·971	3·550	0·555	0·675	1·331
1·40	2·366	4·002	0·591	0·704	1·665
1·60	2·694	4·430	0·608	0·718	1·934
1·80	2·977	4·995	0·596	0·708	2·108
2·00	3·142	6·283	0·500	0·630	1·979

TABLE II.—EGG-SHAPED SEWERS (OLD FORM).

Height : 2·00 *R*.Area : 2·041 *R*<sup>2</sup>.Wetted perimeter : 5·287 *R*.Breadth : 1·33 *R*.Hydraulic mean depth : 0·386 *R*.Discharge : 1·082 *R*<sup>2·67</sup>.

Proportion of depth.	Area, <i>R</i> <sup>2</sup> .	Wetted perimeter, <i>R</i> .	Hydraulic mean depth, <i>R</i> .	Velocity, <i>R</i> <sup>0·67</sup> .	Discharge, <i>R</i> <sup>2·67</sup> .
0·02	0·0030	0·2290	0·0131	0·0556	0·00017
0·04	0·0084	0·3243	0·0259	0·0875	0·00074
0·06	0·0153	0·3994	0·0383	0·1136	0·00174
0·08	0·0234	0·4652	0·0503	0·1362	0·00325
0·10	0·0324	0·5234	0·0619	0·1564	0·00519
0·12	0·0421	0·5760	0·0731	0·1748	0·00757
0·14	0·0524	0·6253	0·0838	0·1914	0·01017
0·16	0·0634	0·6744	0·0940	0·2116	0·01331
0·18	0·0749	0·7270	0·1034	0·2204	0·01666
0·20	0·0870	0·7721	0·1126	0·2331	0·02056
0·30	0·158	1·018	0·155	0·288	0·046
0·40	0·239	1·252	0·191	0·331	0·079
0·60	0·449	1·755	0·256	0·402	0·175
0·80	0·657	2·105	0·312	0·460	0·303
1·00	0·904	2·525	0·358	0·504	0·457
1·20	1·165	2·930	0·398	0·541	0·632
1·40	1·433	3·330	0·430	0·569	0·817
1·60	1·688	3·745	0·451	0·588	0·995
1·80	1·910	4·220	0·452	0·589	1·126
2·00	2·041	5·287	0·386	0·530	1·082

TABLE III.—U-SHAPED SEWERS, FORM NO. 1.

Area:  $3.571 R^2$ .Hydraulic mean depth:  $0.694 R$ .Wetted perimeter:  $5.142 R$ .Discharge:  $2.799 R^{2.67}$ 

Proportion of depth.	Area, $R^2$ .	Wetted perimeter, $R$ .	Hydraulic mean depth, $R$ .	Velocity, $R^{0.67}$ .	Discharge, $R^{2.67}$ .
0.50	0.613	2.092	0.292	0.440	0.270
0.60	0.776	2.281	0.340	0.487	0.378
0.80	1.171	2.733	0.428	0.568	0.665
1.00	1.571	3.142	0.500	0.630	0.989
1.20	1.971	3.542	0.556	0.677	1.334
1.40	2.371	3.942	0.601	0.712	1.688
1.60	2.771	4.342	0.638	0.741	2.053
1.80	3.171	4.742	0.669	0.765	2.426
2.00	3.571	5.142	0.694	0.784	2.799
*2.00	3.571	7.142	0.500	0.630	2.240
2.20	3.971	5.542	0.716	0.801	3.181
*2.33	4.238	7.809	0.542	0.665	2.819

\* Closed top.

TABLE IV.—U-SHAPED SEWERS, FORM NO. 2.

Flat-invert type.

Area:  $3.786 R^2$ .Hydraulic mean depth:  $0.511 R$ .Wetted perimeter:  $7.418 R$ .Discharge:  $2.422 R^{2.67}$ .

Proportion of depth.	Area, $R^2$ .	Wetted perimeter, $R$ .	Hydraulic mean depth, $R$ .	Velocity, $R^{0.67}$ .	Discharge, $R^{2.67}$ .
0.02	0.0204	1.11	0.0184	0.0700	0.0014
0.04	0.0434	1.23	0.0353	0.108	0.0047
0.06	0.0682	1.32	0.0516	0.138	0.0094
0.08	0.0968	1.40	0.0690	0.169	0.0164
0.10	0.1220	1.47	0.083	0.190	0.0230
0.12	0.1526	1.54	0.099	0.215	0.0328
0.14	0.1834	1.60	0.115	0.236	0.0433
0.16	0.2142	1.65	0.130	0.257	0.0550
0.18	0.2460	1.71	0.144	0.275	0.0675
0.20	0.2780	1.76	0.158	0.292	0.0810
0.30	0.446	1.988	0.224	0.369	0.164
0.40	0.682	2.202	0.310	0.458	0.311
0.60	0.997	2.614	0.382	0.527	0.526
0.80	1.387	3.018	0.460	0.597	0.828
1.00	1.786	3.418	0.523	0.649	1.160
1.20	2.186	3.818	0.573	0.690	1.506
1.40	2.586	4.218	0.613	0.722	1.865
1.60	2.986	4.618	0.647	0.748	2.230
1.80	3.386	5.018	0.675	0.769	2.600
2.00	3.786	5.418	0.698	0.787	2.978
*2.00	3.786	7.418	0.511	0.640	2.422
2.20	4.186	5.818	0.719	0.803	3.361
*2.33	4.456	8.085	0.552	0.673	3.000

\* Closed top.



TABLE V.—U-SHAPED SEWERS, FORM NO. 3.  
FIVE-CENTRED INVERT TYPE.Area :  $3.328 R^2$ .Hydraulic mean depth :  $0.480 R$ .Wetted perimeter :  $6.950 R$ .Discharge :  $2.050 R^{2.67}$ .

Proportion of depth.	Area, $R^2$ .	Wetted perimeter, $R$ .	Hydraulic mean depth, $R$ .	Velocity, $R^{0.67}$ .	Discharge, $R^{2.67}$ .
0.02	0.0031	0.232	0.013	0.056	0.00017
0.04	0.0084	0.329	0.025	0.085	0.00071
0.06	0.0158	0.407	0.039	0.115	0.00182
0.08	0.0244	0.483	0.050	0.136	0.0033
0.10	0.0342	0.559	0.061	0.155	0.0054
0.12	0.045	0.634	0.071	0.172	0.0077
0.14	0.057	0.706	0.081	0.187	0.0107
0.16	0.070	0.776	0.090	0.199	0.0139
0.18	0.085	0.844	0.101	0.217	0.0184
0.20	0.100	0.909	0.110	0.229	0.0229
0.30	0.188	1.217	0.155	0.288	0.0542
0.40	0.301	1.506	0.200	0.342	0.103
0.60	0.579	2.038	0.284	0.432	0.250
0.80	0.919	2.518	0.365	0.510	0.469
1.00	1.328	2.950	0.450	0.587	0.780
1.20	1.728	3.350	0.516	0.643	1.110
1.40	2.128	3.750	0.570	0.688	1.470
1.60	2.528	4.150	0.610	0.720	1.825
1.80	2.928	4.550	0.645	0.746	2.180
2.00	3.328	4.950	0.672	0.767	2.554
*2.00	3.328	6.950	0.480	0.614	2.050
2.20	3.728	5.350	0.697	0.786	2.930
*2.33	3.995	7.617	0.524	0.650	2.595

\* Closed Top.

TABLE VI.—COMPARATIVE DISCHARGES FOR EQUAL DIAMETERS AND GRADIENTS.

Properties of sections flowing full.

Reference No.	Section.	Area, $R^2$ .	Wetted perimeter, $R$ .	Hydraulic mean depth, $R$ .	Velocity, $R^{0.67}$ .	Discharge, $R^{2.67}$ .
		$B$	$B/E$	$E$	$E^{0.67}$	$BE^{0.67}$
1	Circular	3.142	6.283	0.500	0.630	1.979
2	Egg-shaped (old form).	2.041	5.287	0.386	0.530	1.082
	U-shaped.					
	2.00 $R \times 2.00 R$					
3	Form No. 1	3.571	7.142	0.500	0.630	2.240
4	Form No. 2	3.786	7.418	0.511	0.640	2.422
5	Form No. 3	3.328	6.950	0.480	0.614	2.052
	U-shaped					
	2.33 $R \times 2.00 R$					
6	Form No. 1	4.238	7.809	0.542	0.665	2.819
7	Form No. 2	4.456	8.085	0.552	0.673	3.000
8	Form No. 3	3.995	7.617	0.524	0.650	2.595

TABLE VII.—COMPARATIVE RADII FOR EQUAL DISCHARGES.

Reference No.	Section.	$\frac{1.979}{K_1}$	$R_1$	$R_1^2$	$R_1^{0.67}$	$R_1^{2.67}$
1	Circular . .	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
2	Egg-shaped . (old form)	1.829	1.255	1.575	1.163	1.832
	U-shaped 2.00 $R \times 2.00 R$					
3	Form No. 1 .	0.880	0.953	0.910	0.968	0.880
4	„ No. 2 .	0.817	0.927	0.859	0.951	0.817
5	„ No. 3 .	0.986	0.995	0.990	0.996	0.986
	U-shaped 2.33 $R \times 2.00 R$					
6	Form No. 1 .	0.702	0.876	0.767	0.915	0.702
7	„ No. 2 .	0.659	0.855	0.732	0.901	0.659
8	„ No. 3 .	0.763	0.903	0.815	0.933	0.763

TABLE VIII.—COMPARATIVE AREAS, VELOCITIES, ETC., FOR EQUAL DISCHARGES IN TERMS OF UNIT RADIUS FOR STANDARD CIRCULAR SECTIONS.

Reference No.	Section.	Area, $R^2$ .	Wetted perimeter, $R$ .	Hydraulic mean depth, $R$ .	Velocity, $R^{0.67}$ .	Discharge, $R^{2.67}$ .
1	Circular . .	3.142	6.283	0.500	0.630	1.979
2	Egg-shaped . (old form)	3.214	6.635	0.484	0.617	1.983
	U-shaped 2.00 $R \times 2.00 R$					
3	Form No. 1 .	3.242	6.806	0.476	0.608	1.974
4	„ No. 2 .	3.252	6.876	0.473	0.607	1.974
5	„ No. 3 .	3.295	6.920	0.478	0.612	1.980
	U-shaped 2.33 $R \times 2.00 R$					
6	Form No. 1 .	3.250	6.840	0.475	0.608	1.979
7	„ No. 2 .	3.262	6.910	0.472	0.606	1.979
8	„ No. 3 .	3.255	6.987	0.473	0.607	1.980

TABLE IX.—EGG-SHAPED SEWERS (OLD FORM).

Height : 2.51 *R*.Breadth : 1.67 *R*.

Equivalent in capacity to standard circular section of unit radius.

Depth, <i>R</i> .	Area, <i>R</i> <sup>2</sup> .	Hydraulic mean depth, <i>R</i> .	Velocity, <i>R</i> <sup>0.67</sup> .	Discharge, <i>R</i> <sup>2.67</sup> .
0.0251	0.0047	0.0164	0.0645	0.00031
0.0502	0.0132	0.0325	0.1015	0.00135
0.0753	0.0241	0.0480	0.1318	0.00318
0.1004	0.0368	0.0631	0.1580	0.00582
0.1255	0.0510	0.0777	0.1814	0.00925
0.1506	0.0663	0.0917	0.2037	0.01352
0.1757	0.0825	0.1052	0.2220	0.01832
0.2008	0.0998	0.1179	0.2454	0.02449
0.2259	0.1179	0.1297	0.2556	0.03060
0.2510	0.1370	0.1413	0.2704	0.03708

TABLE X.—U-SHAPED SEWERS, FORM No. 1.

Height : 1.906 *R*.Breadth : 1.906 *R*.

Equivalent in capacity to standard circular section of unit radius.

Depth, <i>R</i> .	Area, <i>R</i> <sup>2</sup> .	Hydraulic mean depth, <i>R</i> .	Velocity, <i>R</i> <sup>0.67</sup> .	Discharge, <i>R</i> <sup>2.67</sup> .
0.0191	0.0048	0.0127	0.0543	0.00026
0.0381	0.0137	0.0252	0.0859	0.00118
0.0572	0.0248	0.0376	0.1123	0.00279
0.0762	0.0382	0.0500	0.1355	0.00518
0.0953	0.0527	0.0610	0.1569	0.00826
0.1144	0.0701	0.0742	0.1765	0.01270
0.1334	0.0878	0.0882	0.1952	0.01715
0.1525	0.1072	0.0978	0.2123	0.02276
0.1715	0.1273	0.1095	0.2292	0.02915
0.1906	0.1501	0.1222	0.2462	0.03695

TABLE XI.—U-SHAPED SEWERS, FORM No. 2.

Height : 1.854 *R*.Breadth : 1.854 *R*.

Equivalent in capacity to standard circular section of unit radius.

Depth, <i>R</i> .	Area, <i>R</i> <sup>2</sup> .	Hydraulic mean depth, <i>R</i> .	Velocity, <i>R</i> <sup>0.67</sup> .	Discharge, <i>R</i> <sup>2.67</sup> .
0.0185	0.0175	0.0171	0.0666	0.00116
0.0371	0.0373	0.0327	0.1027	0.00383
0.0556	0.0586	0.0478	0.1312	0.00769
0.07416	0.0831	0.0640	0.1607	0.01335
0.0927	0.1048	0.0769	0.1807	0.01894
0.1112	0.1311	0.0918	0.2045	0.02681
0.1298	0.1575	0.1066	0.2244	0.03534
0.1483	0.1840	0.1205	0.2444	0.04497
0.1669	0.2113	0.1335	0.2615	0.05526
0.1854	0.2388	0.1465	0.2777	0.06632

TABLE XII.—U-SHAPED SEWERS (CLOSED TOP), FORM NO. 3.

Height : 1.990 *R*.Breadth : 1.990 *R*.

Equivalent in capacity to standard circular section of unit radius.

Depth, <i>R</i> .	Area, <i>R</i> <sup>2</sup> .	Hydraulic mean depth, <i>R</i> .	Velocity, <i>R</i> <sup>0.67</sup> .	Discharge, <i>R</i> <sup>2.67</sup> .
0.0199	0.0031	0.0129	0.0558	0.00017
0.0398	0.0083	0.0249	0.0846	0.00070
0.0597	0.0156	0.0388	0.1145	0.00179
0.0796	0.0242	0.0497	0.1355	0.00325
0.0995	0.0338	0.0607	0.1542	0.00532
0.1194	0.0445	0.0707	0.1711	0.00760
0.1393	0.0564	0.0806	0.1860	0.01055
0.1593	0.0693	0.0895	0.1780	0.01370
0.1792	0.0841	0.1005	0.2160	0.01815
0.1990	0.0990	0.1090	0.2280	0.02260

TABLE XIII.—U-SHAPED SEWERS (CLOSED TOP), FORM NO. 1.

Height : 2.044 *R*.Breadth : 1.752 *R*.

Equivalent in capacity to standard circular section of unit radius.

Depth, <i>R</i> .	Area, <i>R</i> <sup>2</sup> .	Hydraulic mean depth, <i>R</i> .	Velocity, <i>R</i> <sup>0.67</sup> .	Discharge, <i>R</i> <sup>2.67</sup> .
0.0175	0.0041	0.0116	0.0513	0.00021
0.0350	0.0116	0.0231	0.0812	0.00098
0.0526	0.0209	0.0346	0.1060	0.00225
0.0701	0.0323	0.0459	0.1280	0.00421
0.0876	0.0445	0.0561	0.1480	0.00669
0.1051	0.0590	0.0681	0.1667	0.00990
0.1226	0.0742	0.0810	0.1841	0.01362
0.1202	0.0904	0.0899	0.2006	0.01804
0.1577	0.1074	0.1006	0.2163	0.02324
0.1752	0.1265	0.1121	0.2324	0.02906

TABLE XIV.—U-SHAPED SEWERS (CLOSED TOP), FORM NO. 2.

Height : 1.995 *R*.Breadth : 1.710 *R*.

Equivalent in capacity to standard circular section of unit radius.

Depth, <i>R</i> .	Area, <i>R</i> <sup>2</sup> .	Hydraulic mean depth, <i>R</i> .	Velocity, <i>R</i> <sup>0.67</sup> .	Discharge, <i>R</i> <sup>2.67</sup> .
0.0171	0.0149	0.0157	0.0631	0.00092
0.0342	0.0318	0.0302	0.0973	0.00310
0.0513	0.0499	0.0441	0.1243	0.00619
0.0684	0.0709	0.0590	0.1523	0.01081
0.0855	0.0893	0.0710	0.1712	0.01516
0.1026	0.1117	0.0847	0.1937	0.02162
0.1197	0.1342	0.0983	0.2126	0.02854
0.1368	0.1568	0.1150	0.2316	0.03625
0.1539	0.1801	0.1274	0.2478	0.04448
0.1710	0.2035	0.1398	0.2631	0.05338



TABLE XV.—U-SHAPED SEWERS (CLOSED TOP), FORM No. 3.

Height : 2.107  $R$ .Breadth : 1.806  $R$ .

Equivalent in capacity to standard circular section of unit radius.

Depth, $R$ .	Area, $R^2$ .	Hydraulic mean depth, $R$ .	Velocity, $R^{0.47}$ .	Discharge, $R^{2.47}$ .
0.0181	0.0025	0.0117	0.0522	0.00013
0.0365	0.0068	0.0226	0.0793	0.00054
0.0542	0.0129	0.0352	0.1072	0.00139
0.0723	0.0199	0.0452	0.1270	0.00252
0.0903	0.0279	0.0550	0.1445	0.00412
0.1085	0.0367	0.0641	0.1605	0.00587
0.1263	0.0465	0.0731	0.1745	0.00816
0.1445	0.0571	0.0812	0.1860	0.01060
0.1625	0.0692	0.0914	0.2020	0.01405
0.1806	0.0815	0.0995	0.2140	0.01745

Paper No. 5082.

“The Flow of Water in Short Channels.”

By CHARLES FREDERICK JASON LISLE, B.Sc., Assoc. M. Inst. C.E

(Ordered by the Council to be published with written discussion.) <sup>1</sup>

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Introduction . . . . .	287
Notation . . . . .	288
The specific energy . . . . .	288
The critical depth . . . . .	289
Entrance-conditions . . . . .	289
Change in slope of invert . . . . .	291
Finding the depth of water at any point in a channel . . . . .	292
Stilling-pools . . . . .	301
Scale-ratio . . . . .	302
Experiments on models . . . . .	303
Conclusion. . . . .	307
Appendixes . . . . .	308

INTRODUCTION.

THE simplest, most ancient, and probably the most economical method of transporting water from one point to another is to pass it through an open channel, employing the force of gravity as the motive power. Through the diligent and careful observations and mathematical analyses made by past and present scientists, Tables, formulas and graphs are available, giving the quantity and depth of water that will flow in a channel of any constant cross-section at almost any gradient, and with almost any type of surface. These formulas have, however, one common limitation, and that is that the water enters and leaves the channel at such a depth that a uniform velocity is maintained throughout its length. In short channels these conditions are rarely experienced in practice, and the need for a formula to determine the contour of the water-surface in a channel which is not long enough to establish a uniform velocity has been realized by Mr. H. E. Babbitt, in 1922, and by Mr. B. A.

<sup>1</sup> Correspondence on this Paper can be accepted until the 15th March, 1938, and will be published in the Institution Journal for October, 1938.—ACTING EC. INST. C.E.

Bakhmeteff. The works of the latter, in particular, form a valuable contribution to the science of hydraulics and, although academic, they are largely responsible for the conception by the Author of the subject of this Paper.

It is not intended here to take into account every factor governing varying flows, but to put forward a simple method, based on first principles, for determining the depth at any point in a channel where the velocity is increasing or decreasing in magnitude.

#### NOTATION.

Let $Q$	denote the quantity of water flowing, in cubic feet per second.
„ $v$	„ velocity of the stream in the channel, in feet per second.
„ $g$	„ acceleration due to gravity, in feet per second per second.
„ $d$	„ depth of water in channel, in feet.
„ $a$	„ cross-sectional area of the stream in the channel, in square feet.
„ $\frac{v^2}{2g}$	„ velocity-head, in feet.
„ $h$	„ height of the channel-invert above datum, in feet.
„ $S$	„ slope of the channel-invert, in decimals of a foot per foot length of channel.
„ $i$	„ energy lost by friction, in feet per foot length of channel.
„ $E_s$	„ specific energy, $\left(d + \frac{v^2}{2g}\right)$ .
„ $E_T$	„ total energy, $\left(d + \frac{v^2}{2g} + h\right)$ .
„ $\Delta E_s$	„ increase in specific energy between two pre-determined depths of water.
„ $L$	„ length of the channel, in feet.
„ $\Delta L = \frac{\Delta E_s}{S - i}$	denote the length of channel between two pre-determined depths of water, which is positive when measured downstream and negative when measured upstream.

#### THE SPECIFIC ENERGY.

Moving water, like any other moving body, possesses kinetic energy and potential energy. The potential energy can be divided into pressure-energy and position-energy; the pressure-energy is

measured from the invert of the channel to the water-surface and the position-energy is measured from the invert of the channel to the predetermined datum. The kinetic energy is the square of the velocity divided by twice the acceleration due to gravity. The sum of the pressure-energy and the kinetic energy is here termed the "specific energy," and the sum of the specific energy and position-energy is termed the "total energy."

By Bernouilli's theorem the total energy is constant for all sections of a moving stream in which there are no losses by friction or other causes. Considering Bernouilli's hypothetical stream, it is evident that as the potential energy becomes less, the specific energy increases; that is, the depth of water and velocity change as the water passes down the channel. There are, however, energy-losses in all channels, and the velocity at which the loss of energy per foot run is equal to the specific energy gained per foot run of channel can be found from any of the well-known formulas; in this condition the specific energy is constant.

For any type of channel the specific energy for various flows can be plotted against varying depths of water in the channel, as shown in *Fig. 1* (p. 290).

### THE CRITICAL DEPTH.

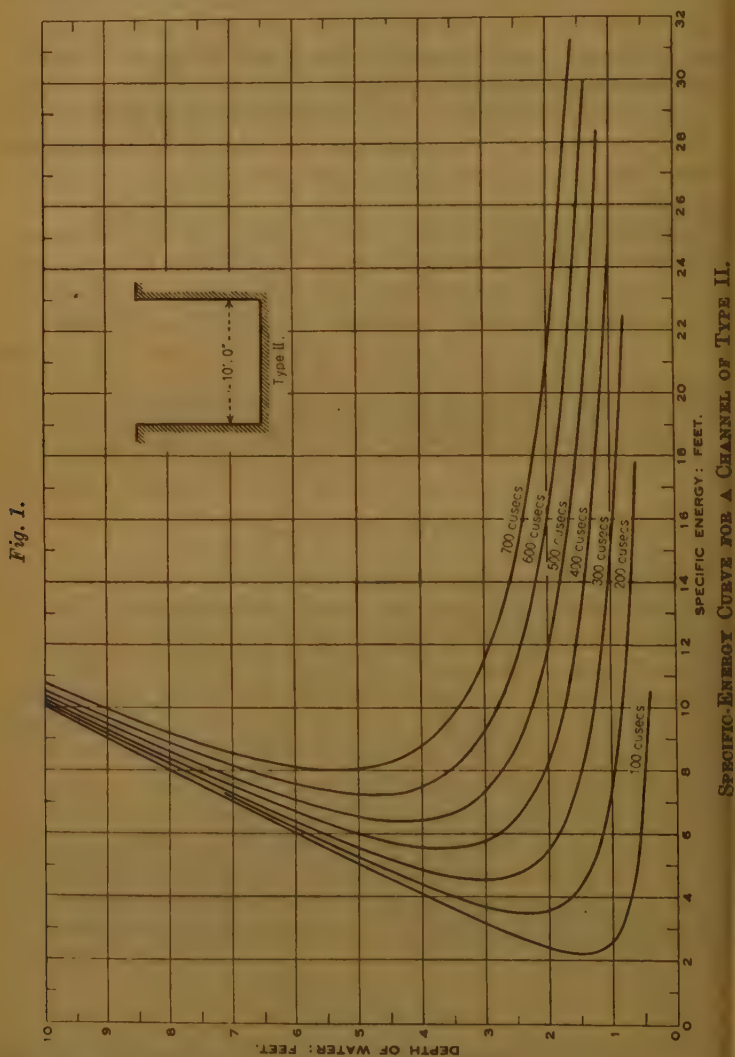
It will be observed that for each flow there is a depth at which the specific energy is a minimum, and it is also noteworthy that for all other values of the specific energy there are two alternative depths of water. The depth at which the specific energy is a minimum is termed the "critical depth," and a flow at that depth is referred to as "critical flow," a flow at a depth greater than the critical depth is referred to as "tranquil flow," and a flow at a depth less than the critical depth is referred to as "rapid flow." The slope of channel to maintain a constant velocity at the critical depth is referred to as the "critical slope," a slope to maintain a constant velocity at a depth greater than the critical depth is referred to as a "gradual slope," and a slope to maintain a constant velocity at a depth less than the critical depth is referred to as a "steep slope."

### ENTRANCE-CONDITIONS.

Let a channel be considered which passes a given quantity of water from a reservoir or tank. Assuming that there are no losses due to friction, eddy-currents or other causes, the total energy in the channel will be equal to the total energy in the reservoir. The velocity in the channel will be greater than the velocity of approach



in the reservoir, and therefore the kinetic energy in the channel will be greater than that in the reservoir by an amount equal to the fall in the level of the water-surface from the tank to the channel.



Further, since the total energies in the reservoir and channel respectively are equal, the specific energy in the reservoir will be equal to the specific energy in the channel plus the rise in elevation of the channel-invert above the reservoir-bed. If the velocity of approach

in the reservoir is small enough to be neglected, the height of the water-surface in the reservoir above the invert-level of the channel is equal to the specific energy in the channel. From this it is clear that the smaller the specific energy the smaller the head of water above the sill or invert of the channel, and, provided that there is no backing-up in the channel, the depth of water in the channel will be the critical depth. There are, however, considerable losses of energy as the water passes from a reservoir to a channel, especially where there are obstructions such as bridge-piers or sharp corners. In such cases the specific energy in the channel will differ from that in the reservoir less the height of the channel-invert above the reservoir-bed by anything from 40 to 10 per cent. of the kinetic energy in the channel, and the value of this percentage can best be determined by experiment on a model, as there are no standard designs for such entrance-works.

#### CHANGE IN SLOPE OF INVERT.

Where a channel of gradual slope changes to one of steep slope, the depth of water at the sill or change of slope will be such that the specific energy is a minimum, namely, the critical depth, as this is the point at which the flow is no longer backed-up. This is independent of the steepness of the steep slope of the channel-invert. It follows from this that in any channel of gradual slope the depth of water at the free-outlet end will be the critical depth for that quantity of water flowing.

Where a channel of steep slope changes to one of gradual slope, one of three things may occur, according to the circumstances. In all three cases the depth of water at the change of slope will be less than the critical depth, and the water will increase in depth as it flows along the gradual-slope channel.

- (a) If the length of the gradual-slope channel is such that the water discharges freely from it before the depth has attained to the critical depth, there is no great loss of energy due to the change of slope.
- (b) If the depth in the gradual-slope channel is such that the specific energy at tranquil flow is approximately equal to that appertaining to the rapid flow at the upper end of this channel, then there will be a hydraulic jump at the change of flow, and a considerable loss of energy will result.
- (c) If the outlet flow from the gradual-slope channel is tranquil flow, but not of sufficient depth to cause a hydraulic

jump, then a hydraulic swell or standing wave will be produced, and the loss of energy will be somewhat less than in the case of the hydraulic jump.

When a channel of steep slope changes to one of critical slope, the depth of flow increases gradually until it becomes the critical depth, and hence there is no great loss in energy in the change of slope.

When a channel of critical slope changes to one of gradual slope, the depth of flow is again increased gradually, and finally falls off to the critical depth at the free-outlet end. Thus, if it is desired to change a channel of steep slope to one of gradual slope without the loss of energy and the formation of a barrier to floating objects inherent in the hydraulic jump, a length of channel of critical slope can be arranged between the steep-slope and gradual-slope channels. It must be remembered, however, that such an arrangement which is suitable for one flow may not hold good for other flows that may be experienced.

#### FINDING THE DEPTH OF WATER AT ANY POINT IN A CHANNEL.

Having now determined the type of flow that will result from a given flow in a predetermined channel, the distance between various depths of flow can be found.

In the case of the channel of critical slope the water enters at the critical depth and maintains that depth throughout the entire length of the channel. The specific energy is constant at all sections, and therefore the loss in total energy per foot run due to friction is equal to the loss in position-energy per foot run. Considering it from another point of view, the energy transformed per foot run from position energy to specific energy is equal to the energy lost per foot run by friction. This energy lost per foot run is often denoted by the letter  $i$  as in the well-known Chezy formula  $v = c\sqrt{mi}$ .

#### *Tranquil Flow.*

The slope of the invert,  $S$ , measured in decimals of a foot per foot length of channel, is less than the value of  $i$  for the depth of water in the channel at the inlet end, that is, the specific energy lost by friction per foot run is greater than that gained by fall in elevation, and, consequently, the net specific energy decreases the further from the inlet end the cross-section of the stream is taken, and it becomes a minimum at the free-outlet end, at which the depth is therefore the critical depth.

*Example I.*—Taking a channel of Type I (Appendix I, Fig. 2,

p. 308), 1,500 feet long at an invert slope  $S$  of 1 in 1,000 (0.001) and passing a flow of 900 cusecs, it is required to find the depth of water at the inlet end.

The critical depth for a flow of 900 cusecs in a channel of Type I is 4.9 feet (Appendix I, *Fig. 2*, p. 308), and taking Barnes's formula for canals and rivers, the value for  $i$  at 900 cusecs and 4.9 feet depth is 0.0067 (Appendix III, Table X), which is greater than  $S$ . The flow, therefore, will be tranquil and the free-outlet end will be at the critical depth. Since  $S$  (the gain in specific energy per foot run) is less than  $i$  (the loss in specific energy per foot run), the net gain, measured downstream, will be negative. As the depth of water is constantly changing the farther downstream the cross-sections are taken, the value of  $i$  will also be changing, and to account for this fact small changes in depth of water must be considered separately and the value of  $i$  for the average of such depths must be taken in the respective lengths of channel. This can be best explained by reference to Table I:—

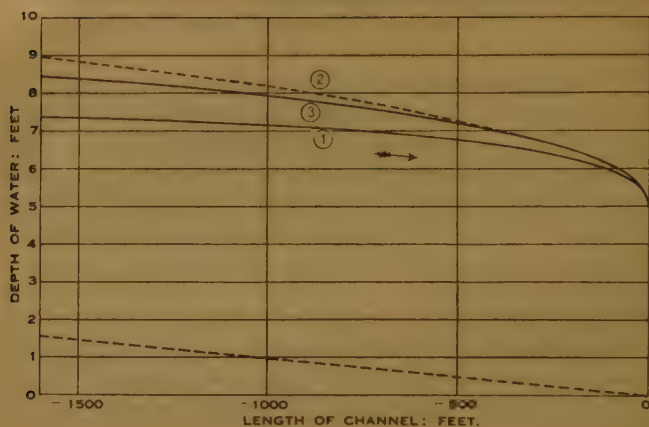
TABLE I.  
 $S = 0.001$ .

Col. (1)	Col. (2)	Col. (3)	Col. (4)	Col. (5)	Col. (6)	Col. (7)
Depth: feet.	Specific energy, $E_s$ : feet.	Gain in specific energy, $\Delta E_s$ : feet.	$i$ .	$S - i$ .	$\frac{\Delta L}{S - i}$ $= \frac{\Delta E_s}{S - i}$ : feet.	$L$ : feet.
4.9	6.641	0.026	0.00578	-0.00478	-5.4	0
5.2	6.667	0.047	0.00487	-0.00387	-12.1	-5.4
5.4	6.714	0.069	0.00424	-0.00324	-21.3	-17.5
5.6	6.783	0.086	0.00363	-0.00263	-32.7	-38.8
5.8	6.869	0.098	0.003159	-0.002159	-45.5	-71.5
6.0	6.967	0.297	0.002434	-0.001434	-207	-117.0
6.5	7.264	0.347	0.001762	-0.000762	-455	-324.0
7.0	7.611	0.384	0.001368	-0.000368	-1042	-779.0
7.5	7.995					-1819.0

If now the values of  $L$  in Col. (7) be plotted against their respective depths in Col. (1), a surface-curve results, as shown in *Fig. 3* (p. 294) by curve No. 1. Curve No. 2 represents the water-surface for the same flow and slope as No. 1, but taking into account the slope of



Fig. 3.



the invert, and curve No. 3 represents the same flow, but with an invert-slope of zero, the details of which are shown in Table II :—

TABLE II.

 $S = 0.0.$ 

Col. (1)	Col. (2)	Col. (3)	Col. (4)	Col. (5)	Col. (6)	Col. (7)
Depth : feet.	Specific energy, $E_s$ : feet.	Gain in specific energy, $\Delta E_s$ : feet.	$i$ .	$S - i$ .	$\frac{\Delta L}{S - i}$ $= \frac{\Delta E_s}{S - i}$ feet.	$L$ : feet.
4.9	6.641					0
5.2	6.667	0.026	0.00578	-0.00578	- 4.5	- 4.5
5.4	6.714	0.047	0.00487	-0.00487	- 9.6	-14.1
5.6	6.783	0.069	0.00424	-0.00424	-16.2	-30.3
5.8	6.869	0.086	0.00363	-0.00363	-23.7	-54.0
6.0	6.967	0.098	0.003159	-0.003159	-31	-85.0
6.5	7.264	0.397	0.002434	-0.002434	-122	-207
7.0	7.611	0.347	0.001762	-0.001762	-197	-404
7.5	7.995	0.384	0.001368	-0.001368	-281	-685
8.0	8.406	0.411	0.001027	-0.001027	-401	-1086
8.5	8.836	0.430	0.000789	-0.000787	-546	-1632

It is interesting to note here that by dropping the invert-level by 1 foot 7 inches at 1,600 feet from the free-outlet end, the water-surface level at that section is lowered by only 6 inches, as shown by the difference in level of curves Nos. 2 and 3. Conversely, if a river or channel (of the type chosen for this example) of horizontal, or nearly horizontal, bed silts up gradually from nothing at the mouth to 1 foot 7 inches at 1,600 feet upstream, then the flood-level at 900 cusecs is increased by only 6 inches.

### *Rapid Flow.*

The slope of the invert,  $S$ , is greater than the loss of energy,  $i$ , at the critical depth and consequently the net specific energy increases the further from the inlet end the cross-section of the stream is taken, and becomes a maximum when the depth is so reduced as to increase the value of  $i$  to be equal to that of  $S$ . The energy is a minimum at the inlet end, and therefore at the critical depth at that section.

*Example II.*—In a channel of Type I (Appendix I, *Fig. 2*, p. 308), with a gradient of 1 in 50, that is  $S = 0.02$ , the flow is 700 cusecs. From Appendix III, Table X, it can be seen that, provided the channel is long enough, the depth will become constant at 3.2 feet, which is less than the critical depth of 4.25 feet. The flow will, therefore, be rapid, and the depth of water at the inlet end will be 4.25 feet. It is required to know at what distance from the origin "uniform" flow commences.

Since  $S$ , the slope of the invert, is such that the specific energy

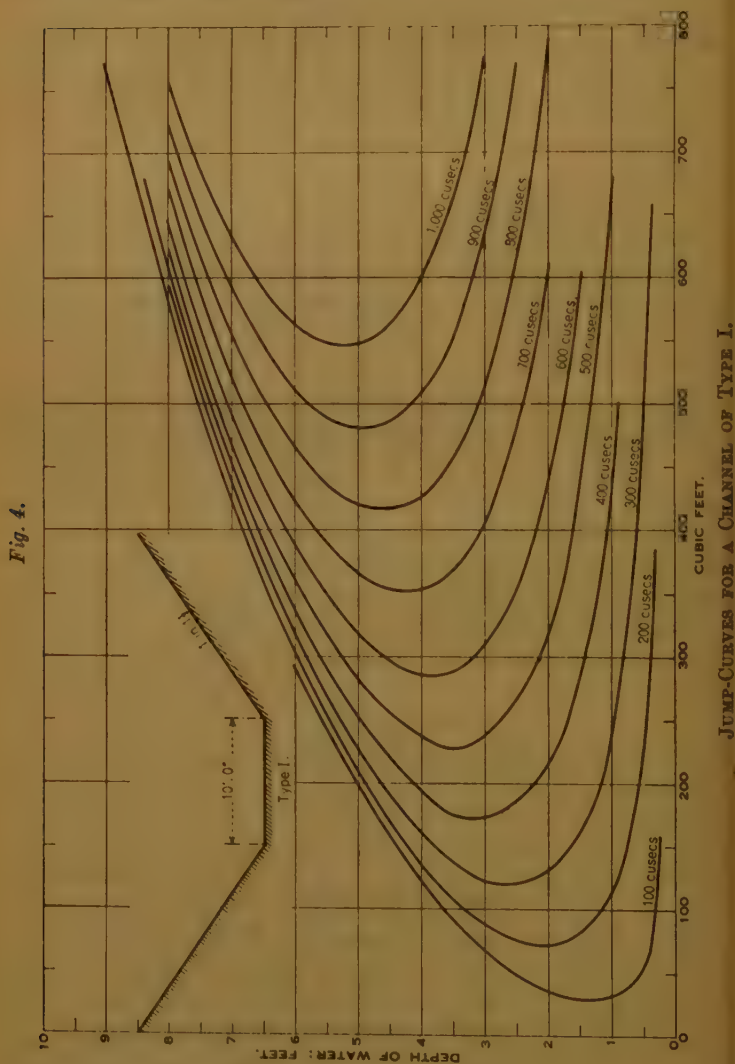
TABLE III.

$$S = 0.02.$$

Depth of water : feet.	$E_s$ .	$\Delta E_s$ .	$i$ .	$S - i$ .	$\frac{\Delta E_s}{S - i}$ .	$L$ : feet.
4.25	5.820					0
4.20	5.822	0.002	0.0070	0.0130	0.154	0.2
4.00	5.856	0.034	0.0078	0.0112	3.040	3.2
3.80	5.935	0.079	0.0096	0.0104	7.6	10.8
3.60	6.079	0.144	0.0118	0.0082	17.6	28.4
3.40	6.293	0.214	0.0146	0.0054	39.6	68.0
3.20	6.587	0.294	0.0182	0.0018	163	231.0

gained at the expense of the position-head is greater than the energy lost by friction, the net specific energy gained is  $S - i$ .

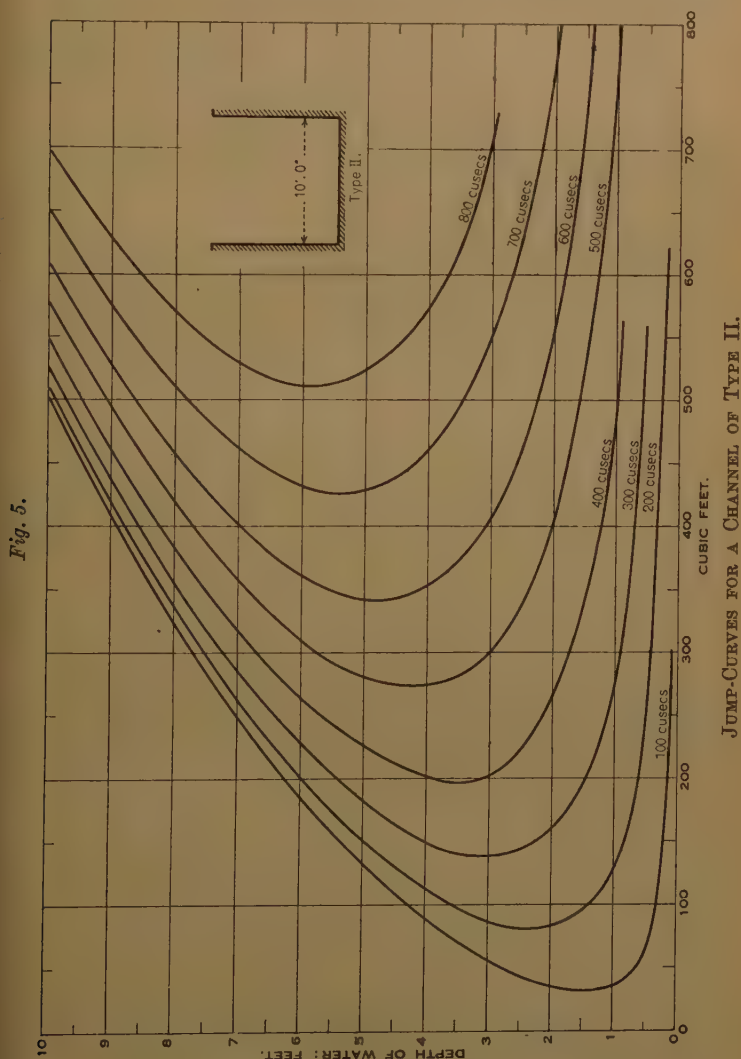
The length of channel of non-uniform flow is therefore 231 feet,



(Table III) and any length of channel beyond this will be running at a uniform depth of 3.2 feet so long as the slope remains the same and there are no bends or other obstructions.

*The Hydraulic Jump.*

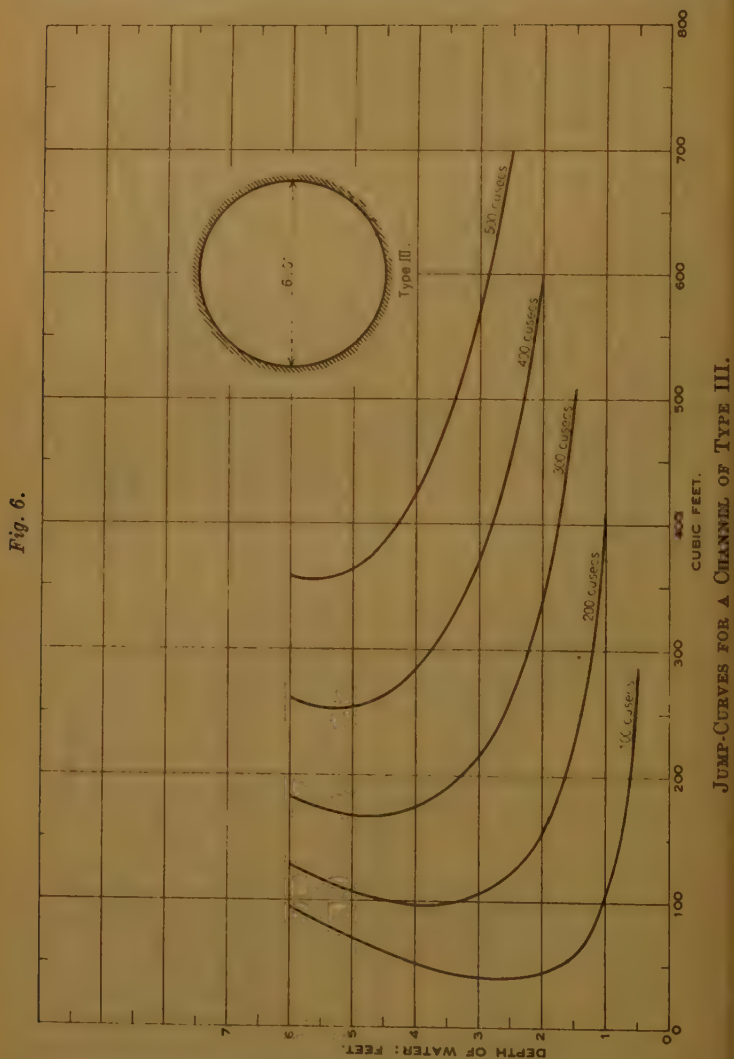
It has been stated above that under certain conditions a hydraulic jump occurs at the change from steep slope to gradual slope of the



channel, and curves have been plotted in *Figs. 4, 5* and *6*, from which the height of jump can be read. These curves are calculated from a formula relating to channels with horizontal beds, but



can be taken as reasonably correct for a channel of gradual slope in designing for a model, or where exact measurements are not of great importance. They are plotted with abscissae representing (momen-



tum per second + total force), stated in terms of cubic feet of water, as this expression remains constant during the hydraulic jump.

*Example III.*—Given a channel of Type II (Appendix I, Fig. 2,

p. 308), having a slope of  $S = 0.05$  for a length of 52 feet, and then changing to one of  $S = 0.001$  for a length of 268 feet, making a total length of 320 feet, and discharging into a reservoir at its lower end with a water-surface level 7 feet above channel-invert level, it is required to know at what point the hydraulic jump would occur with a flow of 700 cusecs.

The figures are set out in Tables IV, V and VI:—

TABLE IV.

 $S = 0.05.$ 

Depth of water : feet.	$E_s.$	$\Delta E_s.$	$i.$	$S - i.$	$\frac{\Delta E_s}{S - i.}$	$L$ : feet.
5.4	8.009	0.005	0.0050	0.0450	0.1	0
5.2	8.014	0.030	0.0055	0.0445	0.7	0.1
5.0	8.044	0.058	0.0062	0.0438	1.3	0.8
4.8	8.102	0.094	0.0069	0.0431	2.2	2.1
4.6	8.196	0.134	0.0078	0.0422	3.2	4.3
4.4	8.330	0.183	0.0089	0.0411	4.4	7.5
4.2	8.513	0.242	0.0100	0.0400	6.1	11.9
4.0	8.755	0.314	0.0114	0.0386	8.1	18.0
3.8	9.069	0.402	0.0132	0.0368	10.9	26.1
3.6	9.471	0.511	0.0157	0.0343	14.9	37.0
3.4	9.982					51.9

TABLE V.

 $S = 0.001.$ 

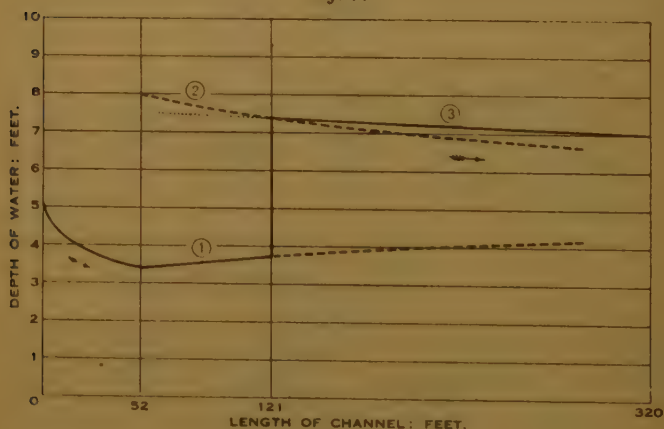
Depth of water : feet.	$E_s.$	$\Delta E_s.$	$i.$	$S - i.$	$\frac{\Delta E_s}{S - i.}$	$L$ : feet.
3.4	9.982	—0.489	0.0157	—0.0147	33.2	52
3.6	9.471	—0.598	0.0132	—0.0122	49.0	85.2
3.8	9.069	—0.686	0.0114	—0.0104	66.0	134.2
4.0	8.755	—0.758	0.0100	—0.0090	84.2	200.2
4.2	8.513					284.4

TABLE VI.

$S = 0.001.$

Depth of water feet.	$E_s.$	$\Delta E_s.$	$i.$	$S - i.$	$\frac{\Delta E_s}{S - i}$	$L.$ feet.
7.0	8.553	0.300	0.00215	-0.00115	-261	320
7.5	8.853					59

In *Fig. 7* is shown the water-surface curve plotted from Table IV in the length of channel from zero to 52 feet, and curve No. 1 plotted from Table V. Curve No. 2 is arrived at from the jump-curves shown in *Fig. 5*, and shows the level up to which the water-surface will jump if obstructed at any cross-section. Curve No. 3 is the water surface for tranquil flow, terminating at a depth of 7 feet as it leaves the channel, and is plotted from Table VI.

*Fig. 7.*

The rapid flow represented by curve No. 1 is obstructed by the 7 feet of water in the reservoir, and consequently a jump is formed and is in equilibrium where curves Nos. 2 and 3 cross. Thus the position of the hydraulic jump for a flow of 700 cusecs is at a point 121 feet from the upstream end of the channel.

In *Fig. 7* the jump is indicated by a vertical line, as the means for

determining the length of the jump has yet to be discovered. The jump itself appears to be somewhat complex in nature, and accurate measurements are difficult to obtain as the surface is constantly on the move.

If instead of a channel there were a rectangular culvert 10 feet wide by 5 feet 6 inches deep for the first 52 feet, 4 feet deep for the remaining 268 feet, and with a free-outlet end, then with a flow of 700 cusecs the water-surface curve No. 1 (*Fig. 7*), would touch the roof of the culvert at 200 feet. This obstruction would produce the conditions necessary to form a jump, but the roof would prevent one from taking place at this section and so the culvert would quickly fill up. In filling up, a tidal wave would travel upstream, driving out and drawing out the air. In this state the culvert would be functioning as a pipe with an overall hydraulic slope greater than 0.001, which is the gradient of the lower part of the culvert; the discharge would increase accordingly and would become greater than 700 cusecs, which is the rate of inflow. It is easy to understand that under these circumstances there would be pulsations with varying pressures on the roof of the culvert.

Under similar circumstances a brick sewer with a change of slope from steep to gradual may be subject to such pulsations, which must inevitably be deleterious to the water-tightness of the structure.

If the culvert be continued and turned down into the feeding reservoir so that the end is well below water-level, the siphonic action will continue and function as in a siphon spillway.

#### STILLING-POOLS.

In river-works it is often necessary to discharge quantities of water at high velocities into the river, with consequent danger of scour of the bed near to the works. Clearly, the smaller the velocity of entrance to the river the less scour there will be, and this can be brought about by taking advantage of the energy-absorbing properties of the hydraulic jump. Having arrived at the depth of flow in the channel just prior to discharge, the height of the jump can be read off the curves and a barrier can be built across the channel sufficient to back up the water to the required height to form the jump. This has the possible disadvantage that the water has to fall again to river-bed level, thus gaining velocity. If this is so, a sump can be made in which the jump will form and from which the water will leave with tranquil flow.



## SCALE-RATIO.

The Tables and Figures have been compiled to suit most common types of channels or conduits, and the chart in *Fig. 8* is for use in determining the factor by which to multiply the flows given in Appendixes I to III to keep them in proportion to the linear dimensions of the respective channels.

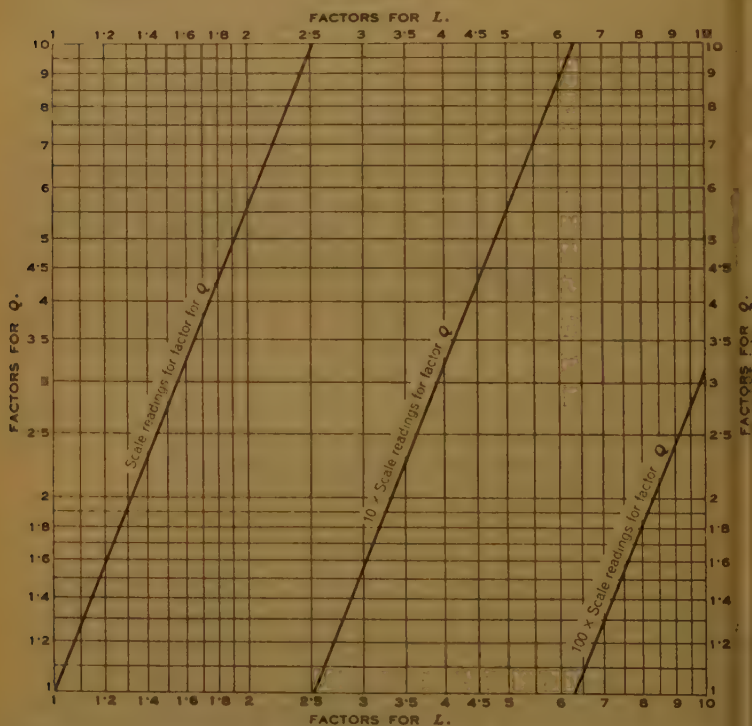
*Fig. 8.*

CHART TO DETERMINE PROPORTIONATE FLOWS IN RELATION TO VARIOUS SCALES.

*Example IV.*—A channel of Type II, 18 feet wide, is to be narrowed down to 9 feet wide. It is required to find the fall in level of the invert from one end to the other of the tapering portion in order to maintain a constant depth of water of 5 feet with a flow of 600 cusecs.

- (a) To find the specific energy in the 18-foot wide channel it is necessary to turn to *Fig. 8* and, opposite the

scale-ratio of  $\frac{18}{10}$ , or 1.8, to read off the flow-ratio of 4.33. This gives for 600 cusecs in an 18-foot channel a flow equivalent to  $\frac{600}{4.33}$ , or 138.5 cusecs in an  $\frac{18}{1.8}$ , or 10-foot channel, at a depth of  $\frac{5}{1.8} = 2.78$  feet.

The specific energy for the latter can then be taken from Appendix III, which gives 3.226 feet. This is equivalent to a specific energy of  $1.8 \times 3.226$

$= 5.807$  feet in the 18-foot channel.

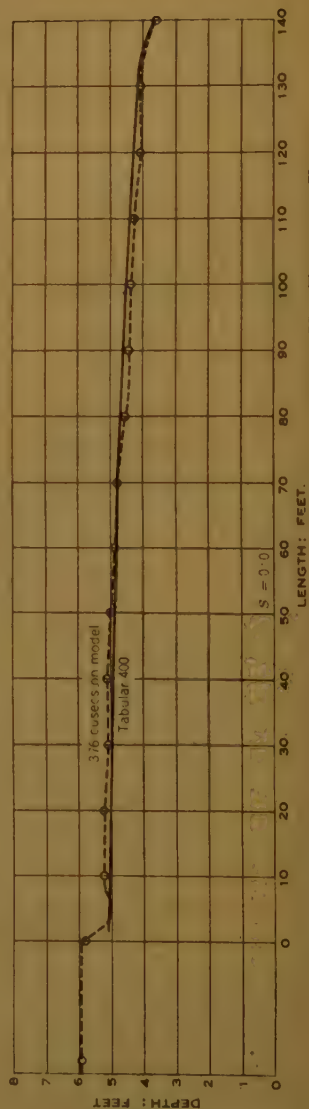
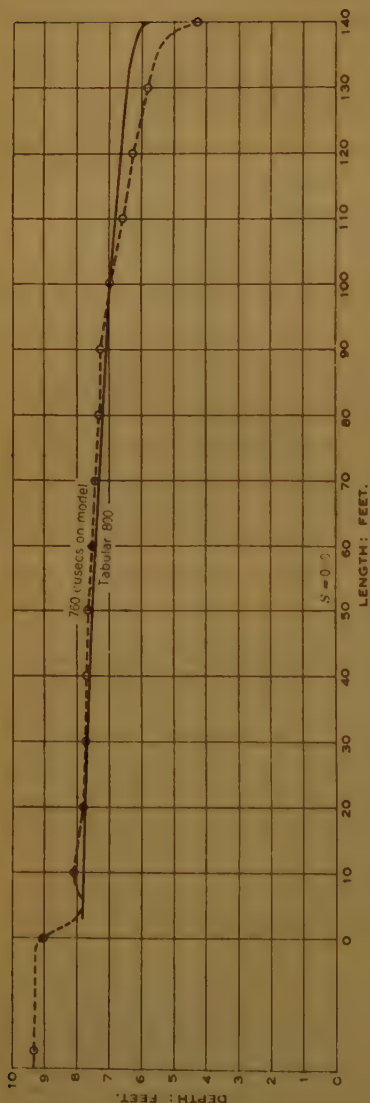
(b) To find the specific energy in the 9-foot channel, opposite the scale-ratio of  $\frac{10}{9}$ , or 1.11, in *Fig. 8*, the flow-ratio of 1.3 must be read off. This gives for 600 cusecs in a 9-foot channel a flow equivalent to  $600 \times 1.3$ , or 780 cusecs in a  $9 \times 1.11$  or 10-foot channel, at a depth of  $5 \times 1.11$ , or 5.55 feet. The specific energy for the latter can then be taken from Appendix III, as for the 18-foot channel, and gives 8.621 feet, which is equivalent to  $\frac{8.621}{1.11} = 7.767$  feet in the 9-foot channel.

(c) To allow for eddy and frictional losses, it is necessary to add, say, 10 per cent. to the theoretical downstream specific energy, making it equal to  $7.767 + 0.287 = 8.054$  feet. Then the required increase in specific energy at the expense of the position-energy is  $8.054 - 5.807 = 2.247$  feet, which is the necessary fall in elevation of the invert from the 18-foot to 9-foot width ends of the tapered length of channel to fulfil the given requirements.

#### EXPERIMENTS ON MODELS.

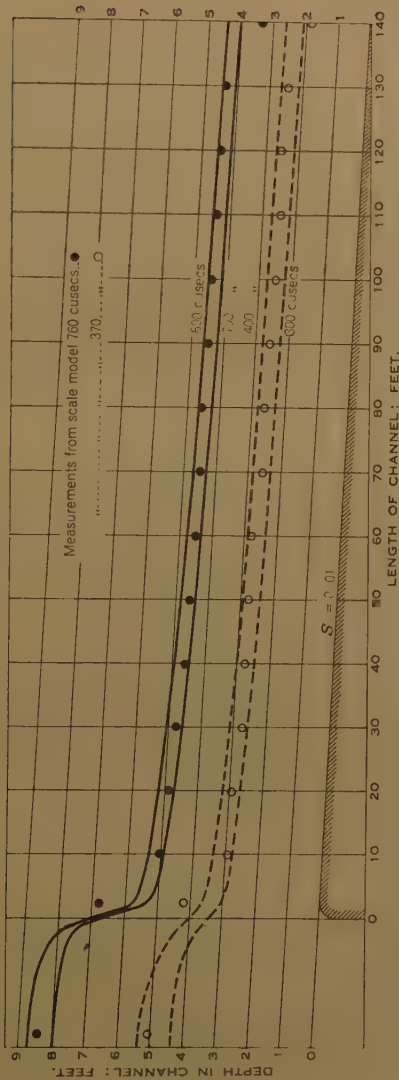
A model of a channel of Type II was constructed at a scale of one-twentieth that shown in the Appendixes. Measured flows of water were passed down the channel at different slopes of invert, and depths of water were taken at equal intervals and were plotted as shown in *Figs. 9, 10 (a) and 10 (b)* (pp. 304-6), where the comparisons between the tabulated theoretical depths and the actual measured depths are shown.

Figs. 9.



EXPERIMENTS ON  $\frac{1}{20}$ TH SCALE MODEL OF A CHANNEL OF TYPE II: TRANQUIL FLOW.

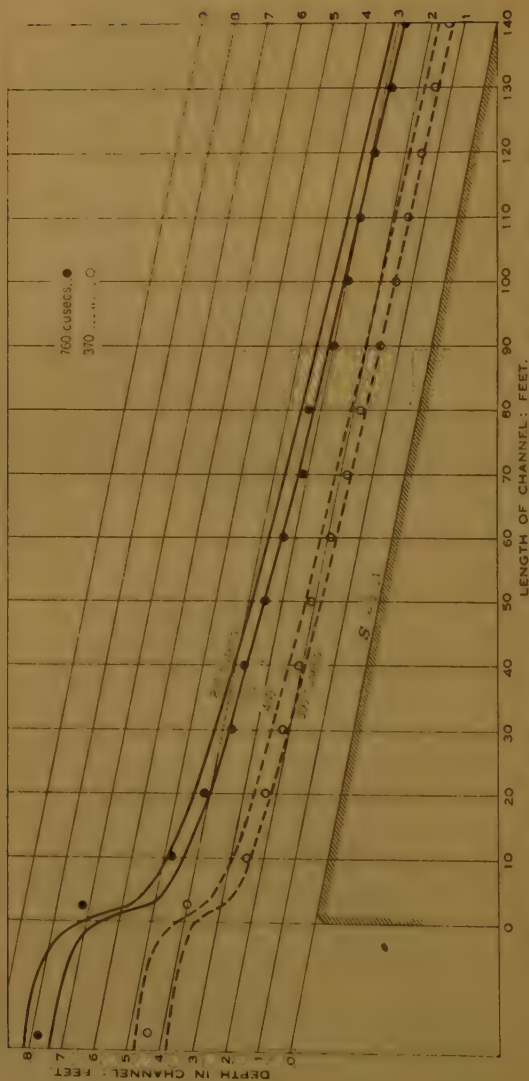
Fig. 10 (a).



EXPERIMENTS ON  $\frac{1}{20}$ TH SCALE MODEL OF A CHANNEL OF TYPE II: RAPID FLOW.



Fig. 10 (b).



EXPERIMENTS ON  $\frac{1}{20}$ TH SCALE MODEL OF A CHANNEL OF TYPE II: RAPID FLOW.

## CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, the Author, whilst admitting the somewhat theoretical nature of the subject, claims that the results obtained by the foregoing method bear a close resemblance to experiments on small models, and hopes that any engineers who have measurements of non-uniform flows on full-size works will make such measurements known in the Correspondence on this Paper so that a fair comparison between the theory and facts may be established.

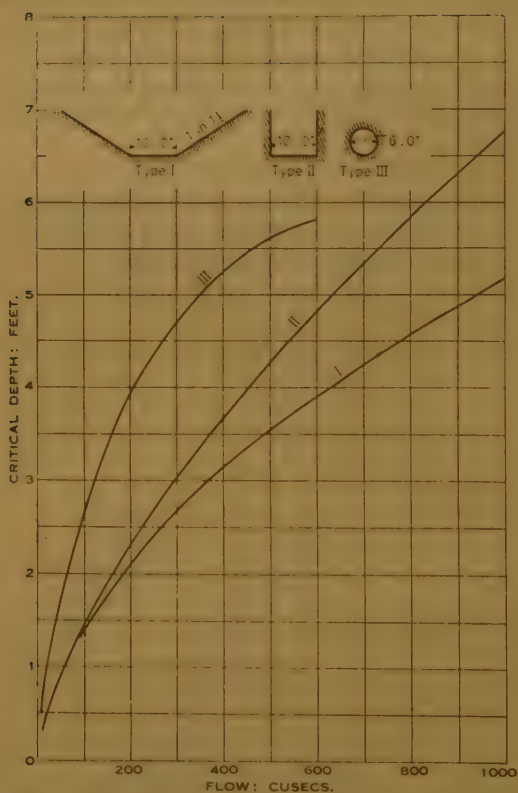
This Paper was written at the suggestion of Mr. J. K. Swales, M.C., M. Inst. C.E., and the Author wishes to express his thanks to him for the facilities afforded for carrying out model experiments on the subject.

The Paper is accompanied by ten sheets of drawings, from which the Figures in the text and Appendixes have been prepared, by two photographs, and by the following Appendixes.

[APPENDIXES

## APPENDIX I.

Fig. 2.



CRITICAL-DEPTH CURVES FOR CHANNELS OF TYPES I, II, AND III.

NOTE.—The Institution as a body is not responsible either for the statements made, or for the opinions expressed, in the Papers published.

TABLE VII.

SPECIFIC ENERGY IN A CHANNEL OF TYPE I (Fig. 2, Appendix I), EXPRESSED IN FEET, FOR VARIOUS DEPTHS AND FLOWS OF WATER.

Depth of water: feet.	100 cusecs.	200 cusecs.	300 cusecs.	400 cusecs.	500 cusecs.	600 cusecs.	700 cusecs.	800 cusecs.	900 cusecs.	1,000 cusecs.
0.2	36.726									
0.4	9.048									
0.6	4.235	15.603	33.239							
0.8	2.731	8.722	18.174	31.688						
1.0	2.175	5.701	11.578	19.805	30.450					
1.2	1.974	4.296	8.166	13.583	20.549	29.063	39.124			
1.4	1.941	3.562	6.265	10.049	14.913	20.859	27.886			
1.6	1.994	3.174	5.150	7.911	11.461	15.800	20.927	26.844	33.549	
1.8	2.097	2.989	4.474	6.555	9.230	12.500	16.363	20.822	25.807	31.522
2.0	2.230	2.921	4.072	5.683	7.754	10.286	13.278	16.730	20.643	25.016
2.2	2.382	2.926	3.835	5.106	6.741	8.788	11.999	13.824	16.911	20.362
2.4	2.545	2.982	3.709	4.726	6.035	7.634	9.525	11.705	14.177	16.940
2.6	2.719	3.077	3.672	4.506	5.579	6.889	8.438	10.225	12.251	14.514
2.8	2.899	3.194	3.687	4.378	5.265	6.350	7.632	9.111	10.787	12.661
3.0	3.082	3.329	3.739	4.314	5.054	5.957	7.025	8.257	9.654	11.214
3.2	3.269	3.477	3.822	4.306	4.928	5.695	6.587	7.624	8.800	10.113
3.4	3.459	3.636	3.931	4.345	4.876	5.526	6.293	7.179	8.183	9.305
3.6	3.651	3.802	4.055	4.409	4.865	5.421	6.079	6.838	7.698	8.659
3.8	3.844	3.974	4.192	4.497	4.889	5.368	5.935	6.588	7.329	8.157
4.0	4.038	4.152	4.341	4.606	4.947	5.364	5.856	6.425	7.069	7.789
4.2	4.233	4.332	4.498	4.730	5.027	5.392	5.822	6.318	6.881	7.510
4.4	4.429	4.516	4.662	4.866	5.128	5.448	5.826	6.263	6.757	7.310
4.6	4.626	4.703	4.831	5.012	5.243	5.526	5.860	6.246	6.683	7.172
4.8	4.823	4.891	5.005	5.164	5.368	5.618	5.914	6.255	6.642	7.073
5.0	5.020	5.081	5.182	5.324	5.506	5.729	5.992	6.296	6.640	7.025
5.2	5.218	5.272	5.363	5.490	5.653	5.852	6.087	6.359	6.667	7.011
5.4	5.416	5.465	5.546	5.660	5.805	5.984	6.195	6.438	6.714	7.022
5.6	5.615	5.658	5.731	5.834	5.965	6.126	6.316	6.535	6.783	7.061
5.8	5.813	5.853	5.919	6.011	6.130	6.275	6.447	6.645	6.869	7.120
6.0	6.012	6.048	6.107	6.191	6.299	6.430	6.585	6.764	6.967	7.194
6.5	6.510	6.538	6.585	6.651	6.736	6.840	6.962	7.104	7.264	7.438
7.0	7.008	7.030	7.068	7.121	7.189	7.271	7.369	7.483	7.611	7.754
7.5	7.506	7.524	7.555	7.598	7.653	7.720	7.800	7.891	7.995	8.111
8.0	8.005	8.020	8.045	8.080	8.125	8.180	8.246	8.321	8.406	8.501
8.5	8.504	8.517	8.537	8.566	8.604	8.650	8.703	8.766	8.836	8.915
9.0	9.003	9.014	9.031	9.056	9.087	9.125	9.170	9.222	9.281	9.347
9.5	9.502	9.512	9.526	9.547	9.573	9.605	9.643	9.687	9.737	9.793
10.0	10.002	10.010	10.022	10.040	10.062	10.089	10.122	10.159	10.201	10.248

## APPENDIX II.

TABLE VIII.

SPECIFIC ENERGY IN A CHANNEL OF TYPE II (Fig. 2, Appendix I) EXPRESSED IN FEET, FOR VARIOUS DEPTHS AND FLOWS OF WATER.

Depth of water: feet.	100 cusecs.	200 cusecs.	300 cusecs.	400 cusecs.	500 cusecs.	600 cusecs.	700 cusecs.	800 cusecs.
0.4	10.105	39.220						
0.6	4.913	17.853	39.420					
0.8	3.326	10.505	22.636	39.620				
1.0	2.553	7.211	14.975	25.845	39.820	56.901		
1.2	2.278	5.513	10.905	18.453	28.158	40.020	54.038	
1.4	2.192	4.569	8.530	14.076	21.207	29.922	40.132	52.104
1.6	2.207	4.026	7.059	11.305	16.764	23.436	31.322	40.420
1.8	2.279	3.717	6.113	9.468	13.781	19.053	25.284	32.472
2.0	2.388	3.553	5.494	8.211	11.705	15.975	21.022	26.845
2.2	2.521	3.483	5.087	7.333	10.221	13.750	17.920	22.733
2.4	2.670	3.478	4.826	6.713	9.140	12.105	15.610	19.673
2.6	2.830	3.519	4.667	6.275	8.343	10.869	13.855	17.301
2.8	2.998	3.592	4.583	5.969	7.752	9.930	12.505	15.476
3.0	3.173	3.690	4.553	5.761	7.313	9.211	11.454	14.042
3.2	3.352	3.807	4.565	5.626	6.991	8.659	10.630	12.905
3.4	3.534	3.937	4.609	5.549	6.758	8.236	9.982	11.997
3.6	3.720	4.079	4.678	5.517	6.595	7.913	9.471	11.268
3.8	3.908	4.230	4.768	5.521	6.488	7.671	9.069	10.682
4.0	4.097	4.388	4.873	5.553	6.426	7.494	8.755	10.211
4.2	4.288	4.552	4.992	5.608	6.401	7.369	8.513	9.834
4.4	4.480	4.721	5.122	5.683	6.405	7.288	8.330	9.533
4.6	4.673	4.894	5.260	5.774	6.453	7.224	8.196	9.297
4.8	4.867	5.070	5.407	5.878	6.485	7.226	8.102	9.113
5.0	5.062	5.248	5.559	5.994	6.553	7.236	8.044	8.975
5.2	5.257	5.430	5.717	6.119	6.636	7.267	8.014	8.875
5.4	5.453	5.613	5.879	6.252	6.731	7.317	8.009	8.808
5.6	5.650	5.798	6.046	6.392	6.838	7.383	8.026	8.769
5.8	5.846	5.985	6.215	6.539	6.954	7.462	8.062	8.754
6.0	6.043	6.173	6.388	6.690	7.078	7.553	8.114	8.761
6.5	6.537	6.647	6.831	7.088	7.419	7.823	8.301	8.852
7.0	7.032	7.127	7.285	7.507	7.792	8.141	8.553	9.028
7.5	7.528	7.610	7.748	7.942	8.190	8.494	8.853	9.267
8.0	8.024	8.087	8.218	8.388	8.607	8.873	9.189	9.553
8.5	8.521	8.586	8.693	8.844	9.037	9.274	9.553	9.876
9.0	9.019	9.077	9.173	9.307	9.479	9.690	9.939	10.227
9.5	9.517	9.569	9.655	9.775	9.930	10.119	10.343	10.601
10.0	10.016	10.062	10.140	10.248	10.388	10.559	10.761	10.994

## APPENDIX II.

TABLE IX.

SPECIFIC ENERGY IN A CONDUIT OF TYPE III (Fig. 2, Appendix I), EXPRESSED IN FEET, FOR VARIOUS DEPTHS AND FLOWS OF WATER.

Depth of water: feet.	100 cusecs.	200 cusecs.	300 cusecs.	400 cusecs.	500 cusecs.	600 cusecs.
0.8	33.474					
1.0	17.692					
1.2	11.152	41.009				
1.4	7.738	26.749				
1.6	5.842	18.569	39.781			
1.8	4.779	13.715	28.609			
2.0	4.211	10.845	21.901	37.379		
2.2	3.903	9.010	17.523	29.442		
2.4	3.769	7.876	14.721	24.304		
2.6	3.706	7.023	12.552	20.293	30.245	
2.8	3.721	6.484	11.088	17.535	25.823	
3.0	3.777	6.108	9.993	15.431	22.424	30.971
3.2	3.860	5.840	9.139	13.758	19.697	26.956
3.4	3.972	5.690	8.552	12.559	17.711	24.008
3.6	4.099	5.594	8.086	11.575	16.061	21.544
3.8	4.241	5.565	7.771	10.859	14.830	19.684
4.0	4.392	5.568	7.529	10.274	13.803	18.116
4.2	4.549	5.597	7.343	9.788	12.931	16.773
4.4	4.714	5.655	7.223	9.419	12.241	15.691
4.6	4.884	5.734	7.152	9.137	11.690	14.809
4.8	5.062	5.846	7.153	8.983	11.336	14.213
5.0	5.243	5.970	7.183	8.881	11.065	13.733
5.2	5.427	6.107	7.241	8.828	10.868	13.362
5.4	5.615	6.258	7.331	8.883	10.765	13.125
5.6	5.805	6.418	7.441	8.873	10.715	12.965
5.8	5.998	6.592	7.583	8.969	10.752	12.930
6.0	6.194	6.777	7.748	9.108	10.856	12.993

[APPENDIX III overleaf.]



# APPENDIX III.

## TABLE XI.

FRICION-LOSSES IN A CHANNEL OF TYPE II (Fig. 2, Appendix I) (USING BARNES'S FORMULA FOR SMOOTH CONCRETE), EXPRESSED IN TERMS OF DECIMALS OF A FOOT PER UNIT FOOT LENGTH OF CHANNEL, FOR VARIOUS DEPTHS AND FLOWS OF WATER.

Depth of water: feet.	100 cusecs.	200 cusecs.	300 cusecs.	400 cusecs.	500 cusecs.	600 cusecs.	700 cusecs.	800 cusecs.
0.5	0.095	0.42						
0.7	0.033	0.14	0.34					
0.9	0.015	0.065	0.151	0.281				
1.1	0.0078	0.0343	0.082	0.150	0.241			
1.3	0.0047	0.0202	0.049	0.090	0.146	0.217		
1.5	0.0030	0.0130	0.0311	0.058	0.093	0.139	0.191	
1.7	0.00205	0.0090	0.0212	0.0399	0.065	0.095	0.130	0.175
1.9	0.00149	0.0066	0.0145	0.0288	0.0462	0.068	0.094	0.124
2.1	0.00109	0.0048	0.0112	0.0212	0.0341	0.050	0.069	0.094
2.3	0.00085	0.00364	0.00875	0.0140	0.0259	0.039	0.054	0.070
2.5	0.00066	0.00288	0.00682	0.0125	0.0201	0.0298	0.0419	0.055
2.7	0.00053	0.00229	0.00550	0.0099	0.0160	0.0235	0.0330	0.045
2.9	0.00043	0.00187	0.00448	0.0082	0.0130	0.0192	0.0270	0.036
3.1	0.00035	0.00152	0.00361	0.0068	0.0109	0.0159	0.0221	0.0292
3.3	0.00030	0.00129	0.00303	0.0057	0.0090	0.0132	0.0187	0.0249
3.5	0.00025	0.00109	0.00258	0.00479	0.0076	0.0112	0.0157	0.0208
3.7	0.000215	0.00093	0.00220	0.00409	0.0066	0.0095	0.0132	0.0177
3.9	0.000185	0.00080	0.00190	0.00355	0.0057	0.0084	0.0114	0.0152
4.1	0.000161	0.00070	0.00166	0.00301	0.0050	0.0073	0.0100	0.0121
4.3	0.000139	0.00062	0.00144	0.00269	0.0043	0.0064	0.0089	0.0116
4.5	0.000122	0.00054	0.00127	0.00233	0.0038	0.0056	0.0078	0.0102
4.7	0.000109	0.000484	0.00112	0.00210	0.0034	0.0050	0.0069	0.0091
4.9	0.000098	0.000430	0.00100	0.00187	0.00305	0.0044	0.0062	0.0081
5.1	0.000086	0.000382	0.00090	0.00166	0.00269	0.0040	0.0055	0.0073
5.3	0.000078	0.000349	0.00081	0.00143	0.00232	0.0036	0.0050	0.0067
5.5	0.000070	0.000313	0.00074	0.00134	0.00220	0.00323	0.0045	0.0060
5.7	0.000065	0.000285	0.000671	0.00124	0.00198	0.00298	0.0041	0.00546
5.9	0.000059	0.000258	0.000613	0.00111	0.00170	0.00270	0.00375	0.00499
6.25		0.000221	0.000528	0.00097	0.00157	0.00230	0.00320	0.00423
6.75		0.000183	0.000438	0.000795	0.00128	0.00189	0.00261	0.00349
7.25		0.000149	0.000360	0.000665	0.00105	0.00155	0.00215	0.00289
7.75		0.000122	0.000299	0.000549	0.00088	0.00130	0.00181	0.00241
8.25		0.000106	0.000254	0.000468	0.00075	0.00110	0.00152	0.00204
8.75		0.000092	0.000219	0.000405	0.00065	0.00095	0.00130	0.00178
9.25		0.000080	0.000190	0.000352	0.00057	0.00083	0.00114	0.00152
9.75		0.000070	0.000166	0.000310	0.00049	0.00072	0.00100	0.00133

## TABLE XII.

FRICION-LOSSES IN A CONDUIT OF TYPE III (Fig. 2, Appendix I) (USING BARNES'S FORMULA FOR WELL-POINTED BRICKWORK), EXPRESSED IN TERMS OF DECIMALS OF A FOOT PER UNIT FOOT LENGTH OF CHANNEL, FOR VARIOUS DEPTHS AND FLOWS OF WATER.

Depth of water: feet.	100 cusecs.	200 cusecs.	300 cusecs.	400 cusecs.	500 cusecs.	600 cusecs.
0.9	0.00232	0.0103				
1.1	0.00096	0.00435				
1.3	0.00049	0.00217				
1.5	0.000252	0.00111				
1.7	0.000141	0.00063	0.00151			
1.9	0.000090	0.00040	0.00096	0.00181		
2.1	0.000061	0.000266	0.00064	0.00120		
2.3	0.000043	0.000190	0.00046	0.00085		
2.5		0.000140	0.000335	0.00063		
2.7		0.000106	0.000260	0.00047	0.00077	
2.9		0.000082	0.000201	0.00037	0.00059	
3.1		0.000065	0.000157	0.00029	0.00047	0.00071
3.3		0.000054	0.000128	0.00024	0.00038	0.00057
3.5		0.000047	0.000106	0.00021	0.00035	0.00054
3.7		0.000039	0.000089	0.00017	0.00028	0.00039
3.9		0.000033	0.000076	0.00015	0.00024	0.00034
4.1		0.000028	0.000065	0.00012	0.000196	0.00029
4.3			0.000055	0.000102	0.000169	0.00025
4.5			0.000050	0.000092	0.000150	0.00022
4.7			0.0000445	0.000082	0.000134	0.00020
4.9			0.0000413	0.000075	0.000123	0.000185
5.1			0.0000374	0.000071	0.000112	0.000170
5.3			0.0000359	0.000068	0.000108	0.000160
5.5			0.0000347	0.000065	0.000104	0.000155
5.7			0.0000349	0.000064	0.000109	0.000154
5.9			0.0000361	0.000062	0.000109	0.000153

## TABLE X.

FRICION-LOSSES IN A CHANNEL OF TYPE I (Fig. 2, Appendix I) (USING BARNES'S FORMULA FOR CANALS AND RIVERS), EXPRESSED IN TERMS OF DECIMALS OF A FOOT PER UNIT FOOT LENGTH OF CHANNEL, FOR VARIOUS DEPTHS AND FLOWS OF WATER.

Depth of water: feet.	100 cusecs.	200 cusecs.	300 cusecs.	400 cusecs.	500 cusecs.	600 cusecs.	700 cusecs.	800 cusecs.	900 cusecs.	1,000 cusecs.
0.7	0.1106	0.461								
0.9	0.0435	0.181								
1.1	0.0192	0.082	0.192							
1.3	0.0107	0.045	0.103	0.186						
1.5	0.0066	0.026	0.060	0.111	0.175					
1.7	0.0043	0.0175	0.038	0.070	0.112	0.159	0.218			
1.9	0.0028	0.0110	0.029	0.045	0.073	0.103	0.143	0.188		
2.1	0.0019	0.0075	0.017	0.031	0.047	0.069	0.095	0.126	0.163	
2.3	0.0013	0.0054	0.0125	0.022	0.035	0.052	0.068	0.089	0.118	0.145
2.5	0.0010	0.0041	0.0095	0.0165	0.026	0.039	0.051	0.069	0.088	0.108
2.7	0.00079	0.0031	0.0070	0.0130	0.020	0.029	0.039	0.053	0.067	0.082
2.9	0.00061	0.0024	0.0053	0.0100	0.0155	0.022	0.030	0.039	0.051	0.063
3.1	0.00046	0.0018	0.0042	0.0077	0.0120	0.0175	0.023	0.030	0.039	0.049
3.3	0.00037	0.0014	0.0034	0.0061	0.0096	0.0138	0.0182	0.024	0.031	0.039
3.5	0.00030	0.0012	0.0027	0.0049	0.0075	0.0109	0.0146	0.0192	0.025	0.031
3.7	0.000235	0.00095	0.0022	0.0039	0.0060	0.0087	0.0118	0.0155	0.020	0.025
3.9	0.000190	0.00077	0.0018	0.0031	0.0050	0.0070	0.0096	0.0127	0.016	0.020
4.1	0.000156	0.00064	0.00145	0.0025	0.0041	0.0058	0.0078	0.0104	0.013	0.0165
4.3	0.000130	0.00053	0.00121	0.0021	0.0034	0.0047	0.0063	0.0086	0.0109	0.0135
4.5	0.000110	0.00044	0.00101	0.0018	0.0028	0.0040	0.0054	0.0073	0.0091	0.0113
4.7	0.000095	0.00037	0.00085	0.00154	0.0024	0.0034	0.0046	0.0062	0.0078	0.0098
4.9	0.000079	0.00032	0.00073	0.00131	0.0020	0.0030	0.0040	0.0052	0.0067	0.0085
5.1	0.000067	0.000278	0.00062	0.00112	0.0017	0.0025	0.0035	0.0045	0.0057	0.0070
5.3	0.000058	0.000239	0.000535	0.00097	0.0014	0.0022	0.0030	0.0038	0.00487	0.0060
5.5		0.000205	0.000458	0.00083	0.00131	0.0018	0.0026	0.0032	0.00424	0.0051
5.7		0.000177	0.000395	0.00071	0.00112	0.0015	0.0022	0.0028	0.00363	0.0044
5.9		0.000151	0.000341	0.00061	0.00096	0.0014	0.0019	0.0025	0.00359	0.0038
6.25		0.000116	0.000269	0.00047	0.00074	0.0011	0.0015	0.0020	0.002534	0.0030
6.75		0.000086	0.000196	0.00035	0.00055	0.00081	0.00111	0.00146	0.001762	0.0023
7.25		0.000065	0.000146	0.00026	0.00041	0.00060	0.00081	0.00107	0.001368	0.00162
7.75		0.000050	0.000110	0.00020	0.00031	0.00045	0.00061	0.00080	0.001027	0.00123
8.25		0.000038	0.000085	0.00015	0.00024	0.00034	0.00046	0.00060	0.000789	0.00095
8.75			0.000065	0.000117	0.000185	0.000265	0.00036	0.00047	0.000600	0.00075
9.25			0.000052	0.000094	0.000135	0.000210	0.000285	0.000375	0.000480	0.00059
9.75			0.000041	0.000064	0.000116	0.000168	0.000225	0.000295	0.000380	0.00047

## ENGINEERING RESEARCH.

## FOREST PRODUCTS RESEARCH.

THE activities of the Forest Products Research Laboratory have continued to increase, according to the Report of the Board for the year 1936.

Previous work having shown the relation between timber quality and growth conditions in the case of oak, the investigation has been extended to home-grown ash, beech, and Sitka spruce. Strength is found to be related to the physico-chemical nature of the cell-walls rather than to the density and structure of the timber. Tropical timbers, whilst of strength equal to or greater than temperate timbers, appear to be in general less tough. The strengths of the more important structural timbers have been investigated. British Columbian Douglas fir is found to be both stronger and stiffer than Baltic redwood. Proceeding from the sapwood to the heart of English oak, the density is found to increase, and the strength to increase to an even greater extent.

A study of the moisture-relations of wood has shown that below a certain quantity the moisture is held by molecular sorption; with increase of moisture capillary sorption appears, and a still higher moisture-content influences the swelling and shrinkage of the timber. It has been possible to correlate the shrinkage with the hydrostatic tension causing the negative pressures in capillary action. Soaking with certain aqueous solutions has been found to be effective in reducing the movement or "working" under varying atmospheric conditions. A study has been made of air-seasoning and kiln-drying. A greater overall shrinkage is found to take place in timber dried at high temperatures.

The leaching-out of water-soluble preservatives has been investigated. A comparison of the creosoting of railway sleepers by the full-cell and by the empty-cell process has shown that whilst with the latter less creosote may be absorbed, penetration is far more uniform and reliable. The advantage of incising heartwood faces is emphasized. Long periods of seasoning before creosoting appear to be undesirable, as more creosote can be absorbed while the moisture-content is high. A distinction is made between the surface and the average moisture-contents. Charring or tarring of fence-posts appears to have little preservative value.

Other work includes a study of fire-resistance and fireproofing, wood-rots and borers, woodworking, box-testing, ply-woods, and glues.

## FUEL RESEARCH.

The Report of the Fuel Research Board for the year ended 31 March, 1937, has appeared.

The work of the Coal Survey has continued. A scheme has been drawn up for the classification of all grades of coal below 3 inches in size marketed in the South and West Yorkshire areas. Research aimed at a reduction in the percentage of coal-dust has been carried out on the breaking of large coal, and work has commenced on new problems connected with the treatment of fine coal. The study of the carbonization and complete gasification of coal has continued, and progress has been made in the production of smokeless domestic fuel. The gas produced has been used for synthesis of liquid hydrocarbons by catalytic action. The pulverized-fuel burners and the feed methods elaborated at the Fuel Research Station have continued to give satisfactory performance in industry, and methods for the removal of grit and sulphur from the flue-gases are being studied. Attention is also being directed to the use of pulverized coal in internal-combustion engines, and research is being carried out on the resultant wear of cylinder-linings. Catalysts suitable for the hydrogenation of tar and tar-distillates are being investigated, and as a result it has been found possible to produce either the ordinary type of motor-spirit or a spirit rich in saturated hydrocarbons, whilst work on new catalysts is directed to the ultimate production of lubricating oils. Another method of attack has been to synthesize hydrocarbons by the treatment of mixtures of carbon monoxide and hydrogen with catalysts to produce motor-spirit, diesel oil, and a range of lubricating oils. Further investigation has been made into the constitution of coal, and in particular the effect of certain reagents upon coal has been studied.

RESEARCH IN ENGINEERING AT OXFORD  
UNIVERSITY, OCTOBER, 1937.

The following notes relate to researches in progress in the Department of Engineering Science at Oxford University (Professor of Engineering Science : R. V. Southwell, M.A., F.R.S.).

*Civil and Mechanical.*

An impact-testing machine has been developed, consisting essentially of a ballistic balance, both hammer and anvil being suspended by steel wires. In this way it is possible to check the measurements by consideration of momentum and to form an energy balance-sheet from which the work done in fracture can be computed. A method of loading has been evolved which employs a standard cylindrical



test-specimen having a central annular V-notch and subjected to pure bending. With a smaller machine of the same type two further check tests can be made on specimens prepared from the broken halves of the original test-piece. This enables a study to be made of the laws of fracture and scale-effect.<sup>1</sup>

The mathematically-determinate nature of pulsating viscous flow in a cylindrical tube is utilized in the "oscillation viscometer," an instrument devised for the accurate determination of the viscosity of oils and other liquids. The ratio of the amplitudes of oscillation of columns of the liquid and of mercury in U-tubes connected in parallel is a function of the viscosity of the liquid.

An investigation is being made of the flow of steam through a convergent-divergent nozzle. The pressure-distribution along the nozzle has been studied and measurements made of the pressure-rise occurring at the section where condensation of the steam commences.

An analogous research in hydraulics is a study of the formation of standing waves in the divergent portion of a venturi flume. The discharge of such a flume under free-flowing and drowned conditions has been studied, and the curvature of the stream-lines has been shown to modify the pressure-distribution on the bottom.

Another hydraulic research concerns the discharge over circular weirs and includes a study of the maximum head over the weir which can be attained without the initiation of vortex motion.

A method of stress-calculation in frameworks has been developed, termed the "method of systematic relaxation." Applied in the first place to structures with members of uniform section, it has been extended to members of variable section under variable loading, and the possibility of its extension to dynamic and other problems is being explored.

### *Electrical Engineering.*

A fundamental research is being conducted into the mechanism of energy-loss in dielectrics exposed to an alternating field. Compounds of simple molecular structure are being studied. Work on solid solutions of paraffin waxes and esters has been completed, and work on compounds with a naphthalene matrix is in progress.

Researches have been in progress for some years on problems connected with wireless transmission and reception. One such problem concerns the stability of frequency of wireless transmitters

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<sup>1</sup> For further information see the Paper "Impact Testing from a Physical Standpoint," read at the Joint Committee of Technical Institutions on Materials and Their Testing, on 29 Oct., 1937, at Manchester.



in so far as it is affected by electrical phenomena, but at present this work is in abeyance until the complementary thermal problem which is being studied at the National Physical Laboratory has reached a more advanced stage of solution. A study has been made of background noise in thermionic amplifiers: the experimental side of this research, which is still in progress, has recently been transferred to Manchester University, where Dr. F. C. Williams (who has been engaged in it) has recently accepted a lectureship.

## NOTES ON RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS.

### MEASUREMENT AND MEASURING AND RECORDING INSTRUMENTS.

A memorandum has been published by the Ordnance Survey on the magneto-theodolite. An instrument for measuring the thickness of coatings of metals is described in *J. Sci. Instruments*, **14**, 341. A method of measuring and an apparatus for determining the elastic behaviour of elastic substances is described in *Physica*, 1937, **4**, 221, and a method of measuring the elastic constants of solids by means of supersonic waves is given in *Ver. deu. Ing.*, **81**, 878. The measurement of strains on the surfaces of structural elements by the use of polarized light, thus dispensing with the use of models, is described in *Ver. deu. Ing.*, **81**, 803. The compensation of strain-gauges for vibration and impact by suitable adjustment of the ratio of inertia to rigidity is dealt with in *U.S. Bur. Standards J. Research*, **18**, 723.

### ENGINEERING MATERIALS: PROPERTIES AND TESTING.

Tests to determine the effect of pressure on the modulus of rigidity of several metals and glasses are discussed in *Physics*, **8**, 129.

#### *Timber.*

*Forest Products Research Record No. 21, Growth and Structure of Wood*, has been issued by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. A new meter for the determination of the moisture-content of timber by electrical capacity-effects and its application is described in *J. Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (Australia)* 1937, **10**, 235.

#### *Bricks, Cement, and Concrete.*

The wick test for efflorescence of building brick is described in

The figure in heavy type is the number of the Volume; that in brackets the number of the Part; and that in italic type the number of the Page.

*U.S. Bur. Standards J. Research*, **19**, 105. The relation of pore-size of bricks to their resistance to disintegration by freezing is discussed in *U.S. Tech. News Bull.* (243) 73.

The effect of the chemical composition of Portland cement on its mechanical strength is discussed in *Tsement*, **5** (2) 22. Pozzuolanas and pozzuolanic cements are dealt with in *La Chimica e l'Industria*, **19**, 1. Sea-water cements are discussed in *Zement*, **26**, 213. The chemical resistance of Portland pozzuolana cements is dealt with in *Trans. Leningrad Industrial Inst.*, 1936, *Physical and Mathematical Section No. 2* (9) 16.

The following researches deal with the resistance of cements : The durability of Portland pozzuolana cements in air and in salt-solutions as influenced by an admixture of calcium chloride, *Trans. Leningrad Industrial Inst.* 1936, *Physical and Mathematical section No. 2* (9) 3, and on p. 16, The chemical resistance of Portland-pozzuolana cements ; An investigation of the resistance of Portland cements to the action of magnesium-sulphate solution, *Zement*, **26**, 210 ; The stability of pozzuolanic and Portland cements in solutions of magnesium sulphate and chloride, *Tsement*, **5** (1) 12. A short account of mineral sulphates and their influence on concrete design and construction is given in *Paper No. 5* of the *Public Works, Roads, and Transport Congress*, 1937. The following American researches have been noted : *J. Am. Concr. Inst.*, **9**, 25, Length-changes of cement paste in relation to combined water ; p. 45, Measurement of the moisture-content of concrete ; p. 65, A simple test for water-permeability of concrete. The influence of moulding pressure on the compressive strength of concrete is discussed in *Concr. & Constr. Eng.*, **32**, 121. A Paper on the size-grading of sand by wind is included in *Proc. Roy. Soc. Series A*, **163**, 250.

### *Metals.*

The effect of over-stressing and under-stressing of carbon steels in fatigue is discussed in *Engineering*, **143**, 620 and 676. The plastic behaviour of metals in the strain-hardening range is dealt with in *Physics*, **8**, 205. *British Standards Specification No. 729* has been issued, giving a standard method for testing the zinc coating of galvanized articles other than wire (copper-sulphate test, and visual examination). The following researches on corrosion have been noted : The influence of films on the incipient corrosion of iron, *Paint*, **7**, 179 ; Initial corrosion-rate of mild steel—influence of the cation, *Ind. Eng. Chem.*, **29**, 814 and on p. 1087, Corrosion probability. Soil-corrosion testing is dealt with in *U.S. Nat. Bur. Stands. Tech. News Bull.*, 1937 (242), 61.

## ENGINEERING MATERIALS: PRODUCTION, MANUFACTURE, AND PRESERVATION.

Results of experiments on humid-aging of fly-ash brick whereby certain disadvantages are eliminated are given in *Ind. Eng. Chem.*, **29**, 427

The kinetics of the carbonation of artificial lime-sand stone are discussed in *J. of Applied Chem. (U.S.S.R.)*, **10**, 290. The workability of concrete is discussed in the following: Study of workability of concrete in reinforced-concrete construction, *Ann. Inst. Tech. Bâtiment*, **2** (4) 3; and on p. 47, Note on the workability and the compaction of concrete with rounded aggregates; The workability of concrete and mortars, *Eng. News-Rec.*, **119**, 17; A new method of measuring the workability of concrete, *Ann. Inst. Tech. Bâtiment*, **2** (1) 48. A vibrograph for measuring the transmission of vibration through fresh concrete is described in *U.S. Nat. Bur. Stands. Tech. News Bull.*, 1937 (244), 86. The moist curing of concrete is discussed in *Eng. News-Record*, **119**, 630.

The preparation of steelwork for painting is dealt with in *Ind. Eng. Chem.*, **7**, 222.

## STRUCTURES.

*Mass Structures.*

Soil-sampling and core-drilling in tidal water for foundation exploration is described in *Eng. News-Record*, **119** (16) 635. Paper No. 12 of the *Public Works, Roads, and Transport Congress, 1937*, discusses methods of dealing with bridge-foundations in bad ground or under water. A symposium on the practical application of soil mechanics is contained in *Proc. Am. Soc. Civ. Engineers*, **63**, 1303. The sub-soil coefficient is shown to vary with the size of area loaded and with the specific pressure in *Annali dei Lavori Pubblici*, 1937, **75** (1) 13. A Paper on the stability of earth dams under the action of constant or varying pressure is contained in *Permanent International Association of Navigation Congresses No. 24*, 81. The design of rock-fill dams, with particular reference to American practice, is discussed in *Proc. Am. Soc. Civ. Engineers*, **63**, 1451. A method of compacting stone filling inside caissons by the use of a pile-driver is described in *Tek. Tidskrift*, **67** (26) *Väg- och Vattenbyggnadskonst* (6), 68. A method of calculation for the foundations of machines under the influence of periodic vertical forces is given in *Science et Industrie (Mécanique)*, **21** (274) 225.

*Framed Structures.*

A solution of the elastic-curve equation,  $M=EI \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$ , derived from the shear diagram, is described in *Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst., Eng. and Science Series, Bull. 54*. A mathematical solution for the elastic stability of a corrugated plate under a shearing force is given in *Proc. Cambridge Phil. Soc.*, **33**, 459. In *Univ. Illinois Eng. Expt. Stn. Bull. 295*, tests are given of thin hemispherical shells subjected to internal hydrostatic pressure. Tests of steel columns, thin cylindrical shells, laced channels, and angles, in which the wrinkling stress is found, are given in *Univ. Illinois Eng. Expt. Stn. Bull. 292*. The combined effect of corrosion and stress-concentration at holes and fillets in steel specimens subjected to reversed torsional stresses is discussed in *Univ. Illinois Eng. Expt. Stn. Bull. 293*. A theoretical study of wires under tension and transverse forces, with special reference to the failure of wire ropes, is given in *Phil. Mag.*, **23**, 1114. The calculation of steel portals, taking account of plastic deformation, is given in *Ossature Métallique*, **10**, 479. Calculations for cylindrical roofs of elliptical form are given in *Génie Civil*, **111**, 323.

The behaviour of rectangular concrete section under torsion is discussed in *J. Am. Concr. Inst.*, **9**, 1. Researches on reinforced concrete include: Reinforced-concrete disks or wall-like girders, i.e. construction of walls without supporting girders, *Proc. South African Soc. Civil Engineers*, 1937, p. 121; Important economies in design in relation to elastic properties of concrete, with particular reference to reinforcement, *Cemento armato*, 1937, **34**, 122; Regulations of the German Reinforced Concrete Committee, a revision of the 1932 regulations, *Deutscher Ausschuss für Eisenbeton*, Berlin, 1937; The shrinkage of reinforced concrete, *Ann. Trav. Pub. de Belgique*, **90**, 155; Pre-stressed reinforced concrete and its possibilities for bridge construction, *Proc. Am. Soc. Civ. Engineers*, **63**, 1277, and in the same journal, p. 1475, Design of reinforced concrete in torsion.

Confirmation by model experiments of a method of minimizing the seismic vibrations of a structure is described in *Bull. Earthquake Research Inst., Tokyo Imperial Univ.*, **25**, 598.

## TRANSFORMATION, TRANSMISSION, AND DISTRIBUTION OF ENERGY.

The following researches on fuel have been noted: Studies of our knowledge of coal selection for steam-generating equipment, *Mechanical Engineering*, **59**, 829; Gas for commercial and industrial uses, *Paper No. 7, Public Works, Roads, and Transport Congress*, 1937; Physical and chemical factors in the ignition and combustion



of carburetted mixtures, *Science et Industrie (Mécanique)*, **21** (274) 220; Research in relation to the motor-vehicle—Fuels and lubricants, *J. Inst. Petroleum Technologists*, **23**, 575, and on p. 602, The determination on a laboratory scale of the ignitability of diesel oils. The penetration of oil-sprays is discussed in *Bull. No. 46, Pennsylvania State College*.

The following researches dealing with transmission of energy have been noted: Power-transmission by belt, rope, chain, and gearing, *Trans. Inst. Engineers-in-Charge*, **43**, 66; The gas-impregnated cable, *J. Inst. Elec. Engineers*, **81**, 625; and the *17th Annual Report of the Electricity Commissioners*.

#### MECHANICAL PROCESSES, APPLIANCES, AND APPARATUS.

The following researches on welding have been noted: Fusion-welded pressure-vessels, *Welding Industry*, **5**, 353; in the *Welding Journal*, **16** (9), *Research Supplement*, p. 4, Temperature-distribution during welding—A review of the literature to 1 January, 1937; p. 11, Fusion welding of wrought iron; p. 23, Effect of total carbon and manganese on the mechanical properties and structure of welded joints in plain low-carbon steel; and in **16** (10), *Research Supplement*, p. 2, Effect of welded top angles on beam-column connexions; p. 9, Spot-welding characteristics of some copper-base alloys; p. 19, X-ray methods of studying stress-relief in welds; p. 23, Fatigue tests of butt welds in structural plates; p. 27, Welded girders with inclined stiffeners; p. 30, The welding of copper; p. 41, Static and impact tensile properties of some welds at ordinary and low temperatures; p. 47, An alternating-current non-destructive test for welded seams; p. 50, Studies of the oxy-acetylene cutting process; p. 53, The heat effect in welding—a review of the literature to January, 1937; p. 71, Discussion on fusion welding of wrought iron. The sleeve electrode for the arc-welding of copper is discussed in *Elektroschweissung*, **7**, 161, and in *Welding Industry*, **5**, 63. Researches into lubrication include tests of bearing metals and bearings under dynamic loading, *Ver. deu. Ing.*, **81**, 1245, and the following in *Science et Industrie (Mécanique)*, **21** (274), p. 203, influence of the state of surfaces on the friction forces and the adjustment with shaking; p. 207, New processes for measuring the state of worn surfaces; p. 209, Relation between the state of surfaces and the dispersion of light; p. 211, Effect of the state on resistance to fatigue; p. 214, Influence of the state on the adjustment to pressure.

#### SPECIALIZED ENGINEERING PRACTICE.

##### *Transport.*

The presidential address of Sir Alexander Gibb to the Institute

of Transport, on Engineering Limitations and Transport Ideals, is given in *J. Inst. Transport*, **19**, 7. The following researches in connexion with roads have been noted: *Dept. of Scientific & Industrial Research, Road Research Tech. Paper No. 2*, Studies in road friction II: An analysis of the factors affecting measurement; *Public Works, Roads, and Transport Congress, 1937, Paper No. 3*, Materials used in modern road construction, and *Paper No. 8*, Modern road tars. The proceedings of the 23rd Annual Road School are given in *Eng. Bulletin Purdue University Extension Series No. 39*. A study of the passing of vehicles on highways is made in *U.S. Dept. Agric. J. Highway Res.*, **18**, 121. Principles of soil-stabilized road construction are discussed in *Roads*, **15**, 230. Articles on the use of salt in road stabilization are contained in *Can. Eng.*, **73** (4) 5 and in *Am. Inst. of Mining and Metall. Engrs. Tech. Publication No. 721*. The vibration of concrete in road construction is discussed in *Civil Eng. and Pub. Works Rev.*, **32**, 204. The following articles in connexion with bituminous surfacings have been noted: Viscosities of liquid-solid systems. Influence of dispersed particles: *Ind. Eng. Chem.*, **29**, 489; Method for testing the permeability of bituminous road surfacings, *Strasse*, **4**, 474; Cotton fabrics for bituminous-surfaced roads, issued by the *U.S. Dept. Agric.* 1936; and a pamphlet issued by the *Cotton-Textile Inst. Inc. New York, 1936*, Cotton fabric-reinforced roadways and runways.

In connexion with Railways: A simplified process for the theoretical investigation of rail-creep is given in *Organ für die Fortschritte des Eisenbahnwesens*, **20**, 369, and tests on strength properties of chilled car-wheels are given in *Univ. Ill. Eng. Expt. Stn. Bull.* 294.

Researches on marine transport include: Ship-propulsion under adverse weather conditions, *Trans. N.-E. Coast Inst. of Engrs. & Shipbuilders*, **53**, 55; Design for economy in ship-propulsion, *Trans. Inst. Marine Engrs.*, 49 (1); Re-analysis of William Froude's experiments on surface friction and their extension in the light of recent developments, *Trans. Inst. Naval Architects*, **79**, 120; The effect of shape of bow on ship resistance, Part 1, *Trans. Inst. Naval Architects*, **79**, 188. Experimental fluid mechanics—a study of the hydrodynamic tunnel from the point of view of motion in two directions, is given in *Comptes Rendus de l'Académie des Sciences*, **205**, 714. Apparatus for the measurement of wave-pressures is described in *Rev. Gén de l'Hydraulique*, **3**, 189. A study by scale models of the removal of silt in front of a lock-gate by suitable flushing arrangements and verification of the results obtained, *Science et Industrie (Travaux)*, **21** (58) 423. The presidential address of Dr. Stephen J. Pigott, on Three Score Years of Development in Marine Engineering, is given in *Trans. Inst. Marine Engrs.*, **49**, 179.



In *J. Roy. Aero. Soc.* 41, the following articles have been noted : *p.* 975, Control surface and wing stability problems ; *p.* 997, Power plant trends ; *p.* 1042, Design of multi-spar wings. *Paper No.* 21 of the *Public Works, Roads and Transport Congress, 1937*, deals with the construction of municipal aerodromes. The following Aeronautical Research Committee *Reports and Memoranda* have been noted : *No.* 1758, Vibration of airscrew-blades with particular reference to their response to harmonic torque impulses in the drive ; *No.* 1770, Behaviour of a pitot tube in a transverse total-pressure gradient ; *No.* 1775, Experimental determination of the bending actions induced by axial end constraints in a rectangular tube in torsion ; *No.* 1776, Note on the directional stability of seaplanes on the water ; *No.* 1777, Effect of differences of form on the porpoising characteristics of two flying-boats ; *No.* 1778, Note on the standardization of pitot-static head position on monoplanes ; *No.* 1780, Diffusion of concentrated loads into monocoque structures.

The following National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics *Reports* have been noted : *No.* 605, Resumé and analysis of N.A.C.A. lateral control research ; *No.* 606, Electrical thermometers for aircraft ; *No.* 609, Experimental investigation of wind-tunnel interference on the downwash behind an airfoil.

#### *Water-Supply, Water-Power, and Sewage-Disposal.*

Methods of locating salt-water leaks in water wells are described in *U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Geological Survey, Water-Supply Paper No.* 796-A. *Paper No.* 19 of the *Public Works, Roads, and Transport Congress, 1937*, deals with the possibilities of the lower greensand as a source of water-supply for Greater London, and *Paper No.* 20 with weather and water-supply. A study of standard and increment methods of measuring stream flow, namely by current-meter and by power-plant discharges corresponding to increments of load, is contained in *Engineering Journal (Canada)*, 20, 781. Measurement of debris-laden stream-flow with critical-depth flumes is discussed in *Proc. Am. Soc. Civ. Engineers*, 63, 1259. A note on the coefficient of discharge of automatic siphon spillways is given in *Annales des Ponts et Chaussées*, 107-i, 733, and on *p.* 805 the torsion of flashboards and trestles in flashboard dams is discussed. The action of ice on engineering constructions and on the mechanical parts of hydro-electric installations in running waters is discussed in *Rev. Gén. de l'Electricité*, 42, 555. Experiments on a small-scale model of a sector weir are given in *Rev. Gén. de l'Hydraulique*, 3 (16) 193. Underwriters' tests of transite pipe are given in *J. New England Waterworks Assoc.*, 51, 282, and on *p.* 277 is an article on the electrical grounding of water-pipes. Tests with "sinterit" for staunching socket-joints in water-mains are given in *Gas-*

und Wasserfach, **42**, 763. Steel stresses in reinforced-concrete pipes are discussed in *Eng. News-Record*, **119** (15), 597. The calculation of water-hammer in a pipe with unique characteristics, i.e. one in which the diameter and thickness are constant, is explained in *Rev. Univ. des Mines et de la Métallurgie*, **13**, 415. The solution of transmission problems of a water system is discussed in *Proc. Am. Soc. Civ. Engineers*, **63**, 1511. The proceedings of the 11th Annual Conference on Water Purification are contained in *West Virginia Univ. Eng. Expt. Stn. Tech. Bull. No. 9*. The following have been noted in *J. Am. Waterworks Assoc.*, **29**; p. 1472, Zeolites and organic exchange filters; p. 1591, Some notes on sand filtration; p. 1603, Experiences with activated carbon at Hammond, Indiana.

The following papers on sewage-disposal at the Public Works, Roads, and Transport Congress, 1937, have been noted: *Paper No. 2*, The occurrence of dilute sewage and its rational treatment; *Paper No. 17*, The design of sewers; *Paper No. 18*, Some considerations in the design of sewage and storm-water pumping-stations; *Paper No. 22*, The treatment of waste waters from dairies; *Paper No. 23*, Some notes on the ventilation of percolation filters; *Paper No. 27*, A contribution to the literature relating to the activated-sludge process. *British Standard Specification No. 540*, for salt-glazed glass-enamelled fireclay pipes, has appeared. Aeration tanks for activated-sludge plants are discussed in *Proc. Am. Soc. Civil Engineers*, **63**, 1535. The adaptation of gas-engines to sewage-sludge gas is dealt with in *Mechanical Engineering*, **59**, 835.

#### *Mining.*

A solution of the problem of heat-flow in an infinite solid bounded internally by a cylinder—a problem of interest in connexion with the cooling of deep mines—is given in *Physics*, **8**, 441. Surface refrigeration compared with underground refrigeration for mine-air cooling on the Witwatersrand goldfields is discussed in *J. South African Inst. Engineers*, **36**, 42. Notes on an instrument designed to record continuously the amount of dust in air are given in *J. Chemical, Metallurgical, and Mining Soc. of S. Africa*, **38**, 75. Notes on the effect of dusts on lighting in mines are given in *Trans. Inst. Mining Engineers*, **93**, 378; in **94**, 1, is the Interim Report of the Committee on shot-firing and its alternatives; on p. 93, Co-ordination of theories of gravity separation; and on p. 114, The law of motion of particles in a fluid.

#### *Lighting, Heating, and Acoustics.*

Problems in building illumination are discussed in *Univ. Illinois Eng. Expt. Stn. Bull.*, **34**, No. 29.

The coefficient of heat-transfer for vertical surfaces in still air



is discussed in *Canadian J. Research, Section A*, **15**, 109, and research on heat-transmission phenomena in the boundary layer of air is described in *Trans. Soc. Mechanical Engineers, Japan*, **2**, 367 (English summary given). Gas-fires and comfort are discussed in *Gas Journal*, **219**, 52. The performance of fin-tube units for air cooling and dehumidifying is dealt with in *Heating, Piping*, **9**, 379.

Researches on noise include: Sound-absorption by solid bodies, *Physikalische Zeitschrift der Sowjetunion*, **11**, 18; Noise-reduction in buildings, *Gesundheits Ing.*, **60**, 616; The noise nuisance and sound insulation, *Beton*, **3** (2) 1.

### *Telegraphy and Telephony.*

A Paper on the radiation-field of a perfectly-conducting base-insulated cylindrical antenna over a perfectly-conducting plane earth, and the calculation of radiation-resistance and reactance, is given in *Phil. Trans. Roy. Soc. Series A*, **236**, 381. The following articles appear in *J. Sci. Instruments*, **14**; p. 325, High-gain low-frequency amplifiers; p. 335, The vibration magnetometer; p. 339, A note on the calibration of audio-frequency oscillators. In *Zeitschrift für Technische Physik*, **10**, 312, an apparatus for frequency analysis by the search-tone method with two intermediate frequencies and logarithmic indicator is described. In *Hochfrequenztechnik und Elektroakustik*, **50**, the following have been noted: p. 96, A grid-controlled magnetic-field tube with a cathode outside the anode-cylinder; p. 98, Damping measurement on metre-waves; p. 121, Echo measurements in the ionosphere. The following researches have been noted in *J. Inst. Elec. Engineers*, **81**; p. 573, Modern systems of multi-channel telephony on cables; p. 658, The dependence of the inter-electrode capacitances of valves upon the operating conditions; p. 667, The apparent inter-electrode capacitance of a planar diode; p. 676, An improved medium-wave Adcock direction-finder; p. 682, A short-wave Adcock direction-finder.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

The principle of similarity—the fundamental conditions of similarity and identity in the mechanical sciences are examined in *J. Inst. Engineers, Australia*, **9**, 341. *A Summary of Progress of the Geological Survey of Great Britain and the Museum of Practical Geology for the year 1936, Part 1*, has been published. Hydro-technical methods in the prevention of malaria are discussed in *J. Roy. Sanitary Inst.*, **58**, 345.